

STARRING THE G-MAN EXTRAORDINARY  
*and* THE MAN WITH THE SUPER-BRAIN



*To Garry*

*From Gloria*

10¢

# SHIELD - WIZARD

comics

NO. 5



ALL BRAND NEW \* \* SMASHING ACTION  
FALL ISSUE



NOVICK

AMERICAN  
MUNITION  
WORKS  
DANGER!

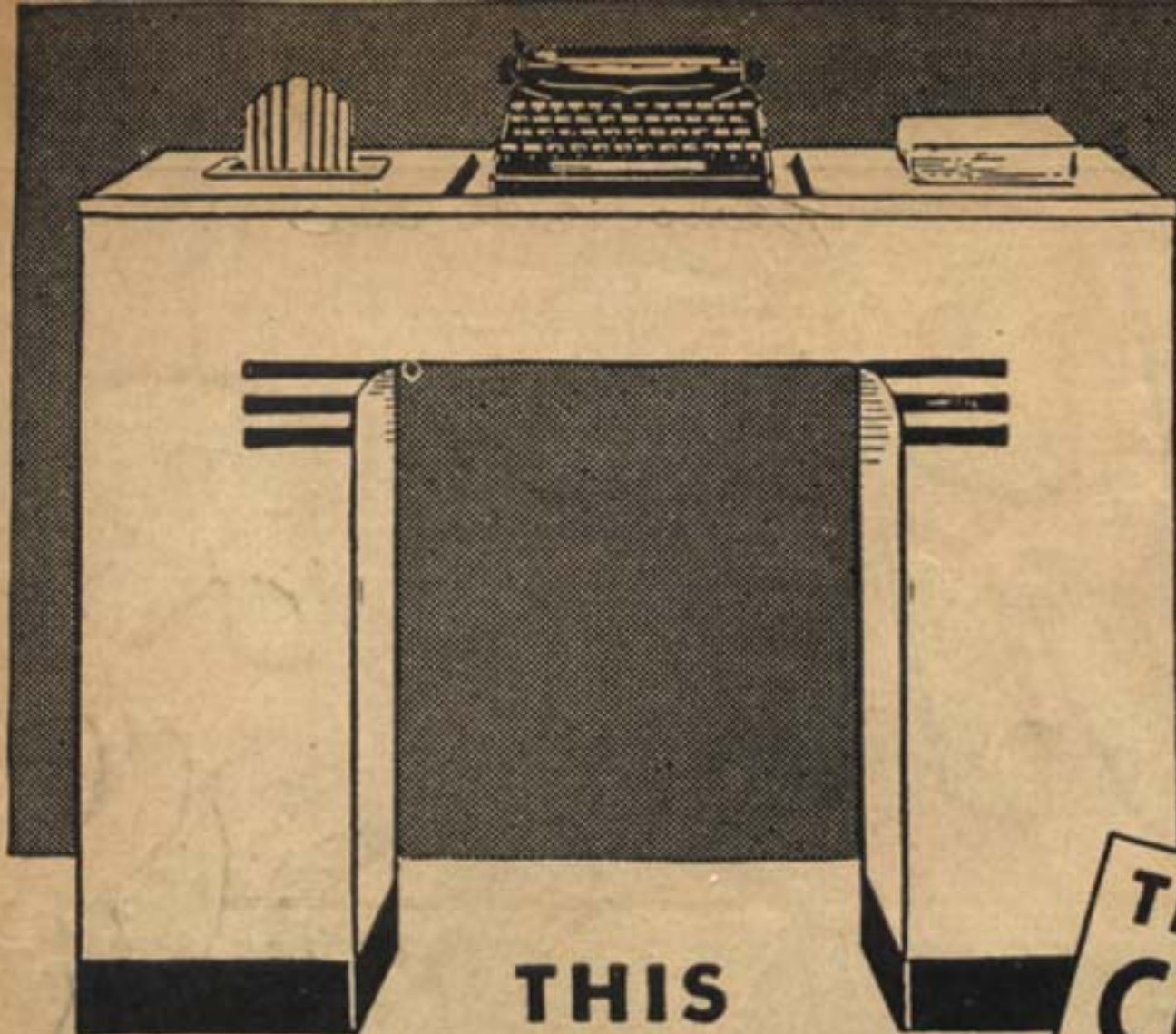
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# THE ORIGINAL SHIELD

WITH **DUSTY**  
THE BOY DETECTIVE



**A**N OWL HOOTS DISMALLY, PERCHED ON ITS GRAVEYARD ROOST, AND A SUDDEN FRENZY SEEMS TO POSSESS THE BATS CAUSING THEM TO FLUTTER AWAY IN WILD FLIGHT FROM OUT THE MAUSOLEUM AS THE HEAVY DOOR CREAKS OPEN AND OUT STEPS THE HIDEOUS FIGURE OF THE MONOCLED MONSTER!

THEN, ASSUMING THE FORM OF A BAT THE VAMPIRE WINGS ITS WAY OVER THE CITY AND MAKES FOR AN OPEN WINDOW...



...AND PROCEEDS WITH HIS FOUL TASK OF SUCKING THE LIFE-BLOOD FROM HIS SLEEPING VICTIM!

HA! DONE! NOW, MY DEAR, YOU'LL BECOME A FULL-BLOODED MEMBER OF MY LEGION - THE LEGION OF VAMPIRES!



WHILE AT THE SAME TIME THE SHIELD AND DUSTY, THE BOY DETECTIVE ARE ENGAGED IN A TASK OF AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT NATURE...

WE'VE GOT THESE SMUGGLERS DEAD TO RIGHTS, DUSTY!



LET'S POLISH 'EM OFF QUICK, SHIELD!

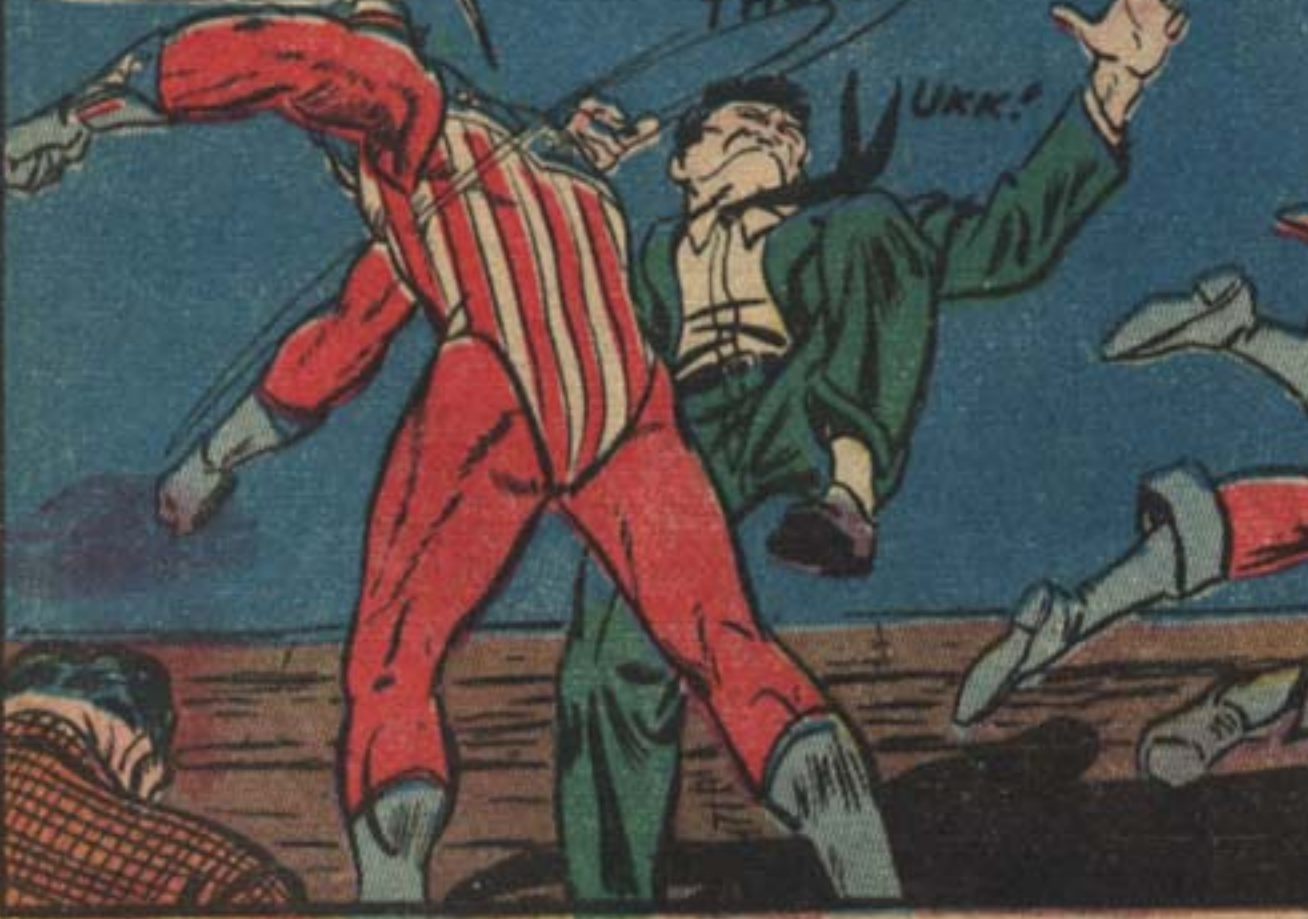
OKAY, DUSTY! LET'S GO!



YAHOO?

CRIPES!

SET 'EM UP IN THE OTHER ALLEY!



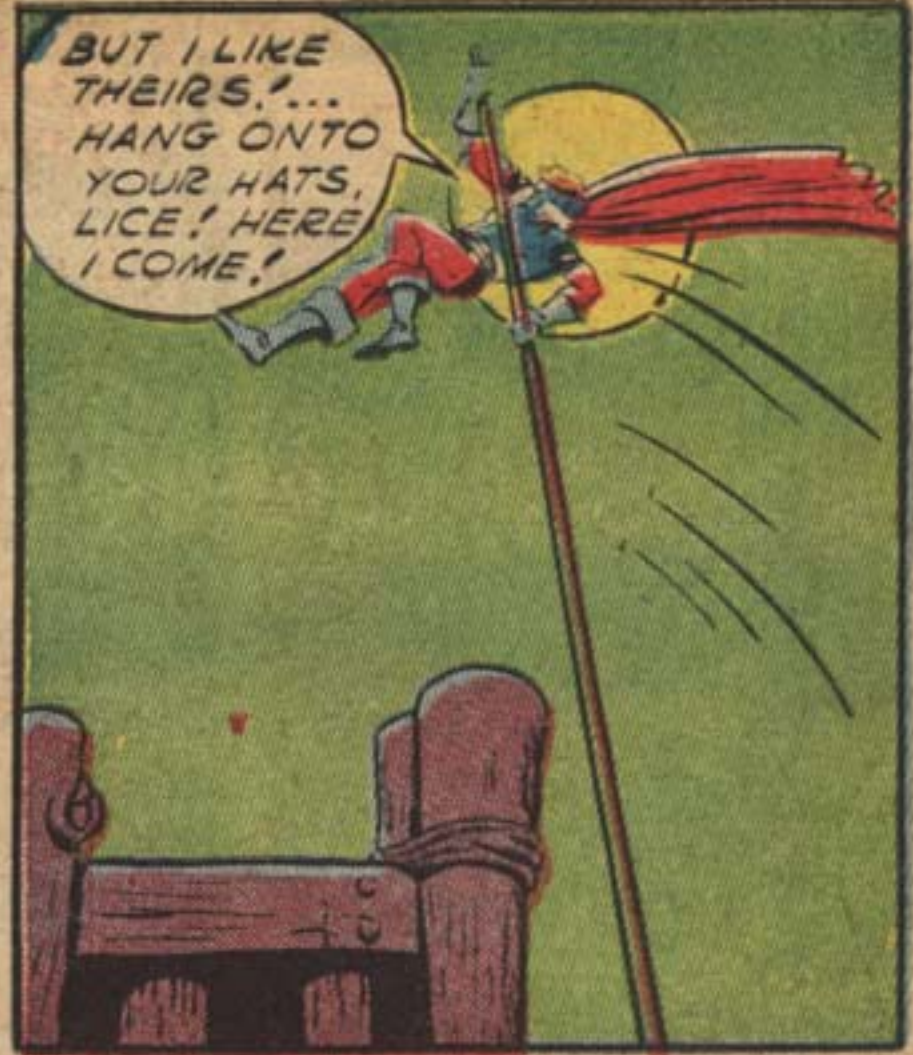
THUMP!

UHK!

TEN STRIKE HERE, TOO SHIELD!



OOH!



THE END OF A PERFECT NIGHT'S WORK, DUSTY! AND SO TO BED!

SHUX...THOSE GUYS DIDN'T GIVE ME ENOUGH OF A WORKOUT TO TIRE ME OUT!



WHILE SOARING OVERHEAD IN PURSUIT...THE MONOCLED MONSTER IN HIS BAT FORM!



SLEEP TIGHT KID... PLENTY TO BE DONE TOMORROW!

OKAY, SHIELD! I'LL SIT UP FOR AWHILE AND READ MYSELF TO SLEEP!



CURSE HIM! WHY DOESN'T HE GO TO SLEEP! THE NIGHT'S GROWING SHORT!

HO HUM! GETTIN' DOPY! THINK I'LL CALL IT A NIGHT!



GOOD! NOW TO MY TASK!



AH!...SOUND ASLEEP! EXHAUSTED, NO DOUBT!

HIS FLESH, SO YOUNG AND SOFT!  
I SINK MY FANG RIGHT HERE, AND...



THE DEVIL! DAWN IS  
ALMOST HERE!



I MUST HURRY BACK  
TO MY TOMB... OR I AM  
TRAPPED!



DUSTY AWAKES, COLD SWEAT POUR-  
ING FROM HIM - HIS BONES CHILLED  
TO THE MARROW AND HE SHRIEKS...



JOE! JOE!  
C'MERE!  
PLEASE  
HURRY!

DUSTY, FOR THE LOVE  
OF MUD!... WHAT'S  
THE MATTER, YOUNG-  
STER?



I... I DON'T KNOW  
EXACTLY, JOE, BUT I...  
I GOTTA ADMIT  
I'M SCARED!

IT SEEMED AS REAL AS LIFE!...  
A MONSTER - A VAMPIRE -  
LEANIN' OVER ME TO SUCK  
MY BLOOD!... 'N I COULDN'T  
MOVE!... LIKE I WAS  
PARALYZED!



WHAT?

HMM!... NO WONDER! IF  
YOU DON'T WANT TO  
HAVE VAMPIRE NIGHT-  
MARES, DON'T READ  
ABOUT 'EM BE-  
FORE YOU GO  
TO SLEEP!



B.. BUT  
JOE..

OKAY, THEN  
HOW DO YOU  
EXPLAIN THAT  
TORN WIN-  
DOW SHADE!...  
I SUPPOSE  
MY DREAM  
DID THAT,  
TOO!





YOU'RE ALL WORKED UP ABOUT NOTHING, I TELL YOU... NOW G'WAN BACK TO BED AND GET SOME SHUT-EYE!



BUT WHEN JOE HIGGINS REACHES HIS ROOM—

I... I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! BUT THAT TORN WINDOW SHADE! AND DUSTY DOESN'T SCARE EASY! THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT IT ALL I DON'T LIKE!



THE NEXT NIGHT—AND AGAIN THE GRISLY FIGURE OF THE UNDEAD CREATURE IS SILHOUETTED ACROSS THE MOON...



AND IT RETURNS TO ITS UNCOMPLETED TASK, FLITTING THROUGH THE OPEN WINDOW OF DUSTY'S ROOM!



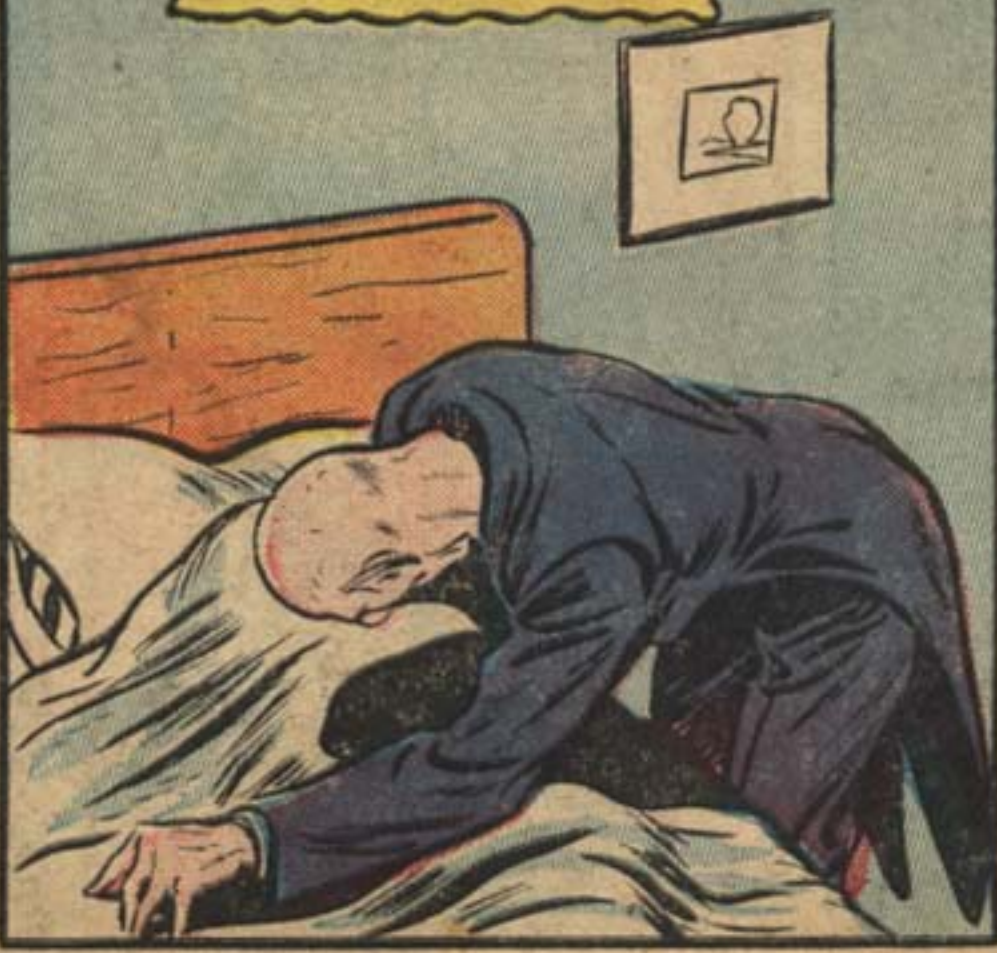
INSIDE, A TRANSFORMATION—AND THE MONOCLED MONSTER STANDS FORTH—



THIS TIME I SHAN'T FAIL!



SLOWLY, SLOWLY, THE MONSTER BENDS OVER THE PROSTRATE FIGURE, ITS FANGS POISED. THEN A SHARP DOWNWARD THRUST, AND—



A TRICK! CURSE THE MISERABLE IMP!



THE MONOCLED MONSTER EXITS HASTILY...



FELL FOR IT LIKE A TON OF BRICKS, DIDN'T YA, YA GOON?



BUT, AS THE STRANGLING NOOSE EN-CIRCLES THE MONSTER'S THROAT...



HE TUGS MIGHTILY AND JERKS IT OUT OF THE BOY DETECTIVE'S HANDS!



THEN, A GREAT BOUND CARRIES THE VAMPIRE TOWARD THE INTREPID BOY DETECTIVE —



YOU YOUNG FOOL!... YOU REALLY THOUGHT YOU COULD OVER-COME ME WITH YOUR PUNY EFFORTS!



AH! I'VE STRANGLERED THE BREATH FROM HIM.. NOW I'LL TASTE YOUR BLOOD, MY YOUNG BANTAM!



YOU'LL TASTE BLOOD ALL RIGHT. YOUR OWN!





I SEE YOU KNOW ME!

YES, I KNOW YOU! IN FACT I'VE EVEN LOOKED FORWARD TO OUR ENCOUNTER! I AM A STRONGER POWER FOR EVIL THAN YOU ARE FOR GOOD!



THE SHIELD LASHES OUT WITH A CRUSHING BLOW, EVERY OUNCE OF HIS GREAT STRENGTH BROUGHT INTO PLAY. AND—

THAT'S WHAT YOU SAY...



BUT THE CREATURE, FAR FROM SUBDUED COMES UP, SPITTING VILE BLOOD, AND WHILE THE SHIELD IS PRE-OCCUPIED WITH DUSTY...



...CHARGES BACK WITH MAD FURY...

I'LL HAVE YOUR HEART'S BLOOD, SHIELD!

OH, NOT CONVINCED YET, ARE YOU?



BACK AND FORTH THE TWO STRUGGLE, LOCKED IN MIGHTY COMBAT. FOR ONCE, THE SHIELD HAS MET A FOE ALMOST ABLE TO MATCH HIM IN STRENGTH!



THEN, A MIGHTY, CONVULSIVE TWIST AND THE MONOCLED MONSTER CARRIES THE SHIELD OVER THE ROOF TOP...

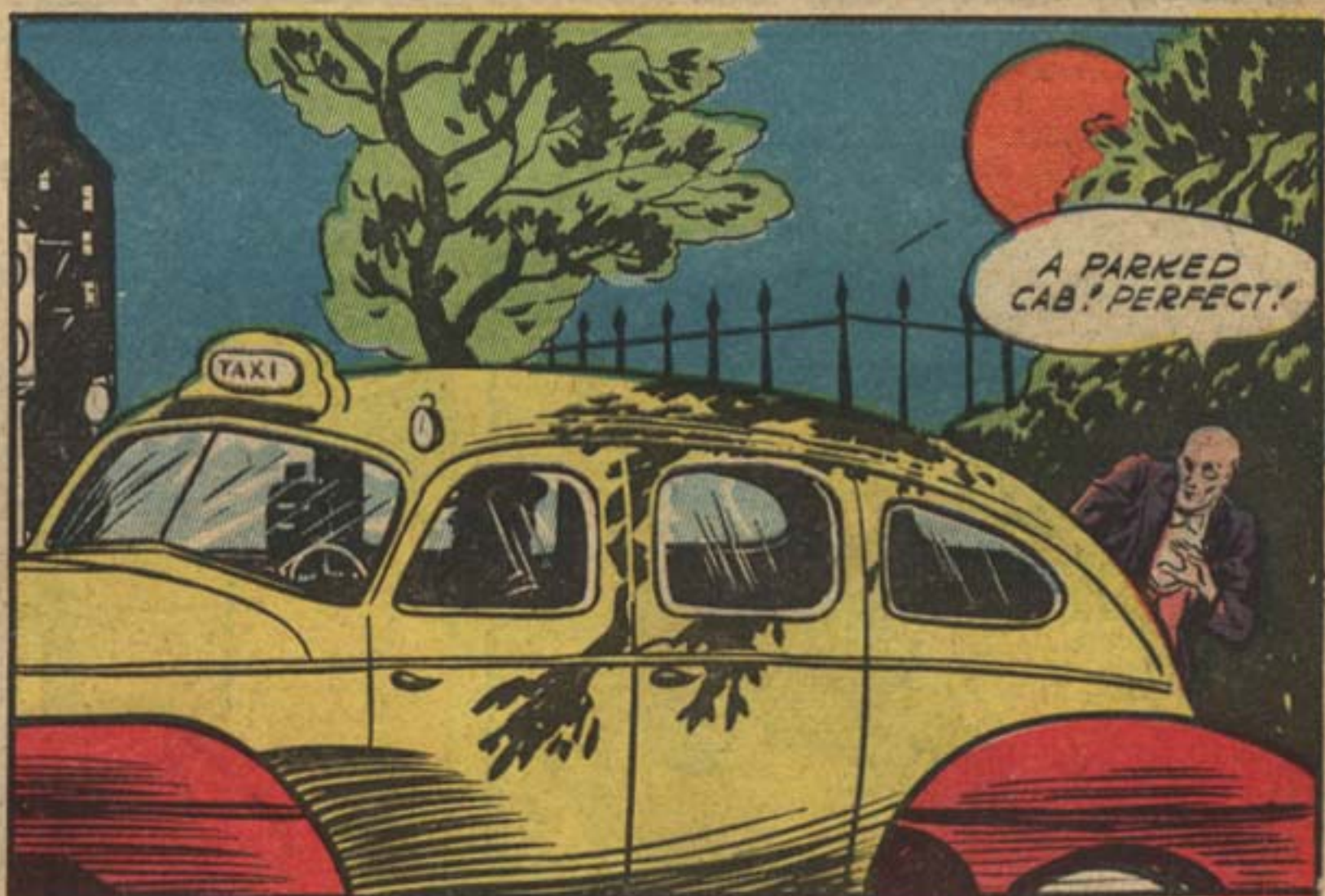


AND BOTH LAND ON THE PAVEMENT BELOW, WITH A CLEAN UP CRASH!



THE SHIELD IS THE FIRST TO RECOVER AND REACHES OUT FOR HIS ADVERSARY, BUT THE MONSTER TAKES THE FORM OF A BAT!

WHAT IN—





NOT A SIGN OF HIM?... I COULD HAVE SWORN I SAW THAT BAT LAND IN THIS PARK



WELL, I'M WAITIN' FOR MY BOY FRIEND, JU JU!... WE GOT -- ER -- A SORT OF DATE!

ANYONE WHO WOULD KEEP SUCH A LOVELY CREATURE WAITING DESERVES TO HAVE HIS DATE BROKEN!



I'D CONSIDER IT A GREAT PRIVILEGE IF YOU'D ALLOW ME TO TAKE YOU TO DINNER!

TEE HEE! YOU SURE DO HAVE A LINE -- BUT I LIKE IT!



'N BESIDES, YOU'RE RIGHT! JU JU'S GOT HIS NERVE! I BEEN WAITIN' FER HIM OVER AN HOUR!... I'LL TEACH HIM A LESSON!

SPLENDID! TO THE NEAREST RESTAURANT, DRIVER!



LET'S GO TO PIERRE'S! IT'S MY FAVORITE EATIN' PLACE. SO CULTURED 'N REFINED. LIKE I ALWAYS SAY, PEOPLE ALWAYS JUDGE YA BY THE PLACES YOU EAT, 'N BLA..BLA..BLA...

QUITE RIGHT, MY DEAR!

THE CHATTER-ING NUMBSKULL! HOWEVER, SHE WOULD BE A TASTY MORSEL FOR MY OWN DIET!



HERE WE ARE, AT PIERRE'S. I'M FAMISHED!

SO AM I! FAMISHED FOR BLOOD-HER BLOOD! I MUST WIN HER CONFIDENCE!



SUCH RADIANT LOVELINESS!... I'M QUITE SURE THIS JU JU WATSON DOESN'T DESERVE ANYBODY LIKE YOU!

TEE HEE! I BET YOU TELL THAT TO ALL THE GIRLS!

JUST THEN, JU JU WATSON ENTERS -

SO HERE YA ARE MAMIE. I BEEN LOOKIN ALL OVER FOR YA... HEY, WHAT GOES ON HERE?... WHO'S THIS GINK?



AN DON'T TRY TO GIVE ME THE OLD HOKUM ABOUT HIM BEIN' A VISITIN' UNCLE FROM PEORIA!

BLAST YOUR IMPUDENCE, I'LL...

PLEASE DON'T FIGHT!



FIGHT, HUH... IF I GOT TO WORK ON THAT GUY, IT WOULDN'T BE A FIGHT. IT'D BE A MASSACRE!



JU JU WATSON.. YOU'RE JUST A VULGAR RUFFIAN. IF YOU HAD HALF THE MANNERS OF THE COUNT...

OH, SO HE TOLD YA HE'S A COUNT, DID HE?... OKAY, YA CAN HAVE HIM - AN' WELCOME! I'M THROUGH!



WOMEN... NUTS!... GIVE 'EM THE OLD SONG AND DANCE ABOUT NOBILITY AN' THEY GO HAYWIRE!



WHILE AT THAT MOMENT..

LOOKS LIKE THE VAMPIRE GAVE ME THE SLIP ALL RIGHT... BUT I'M NOT GOING TO STOP LOOKING FOR HIM!



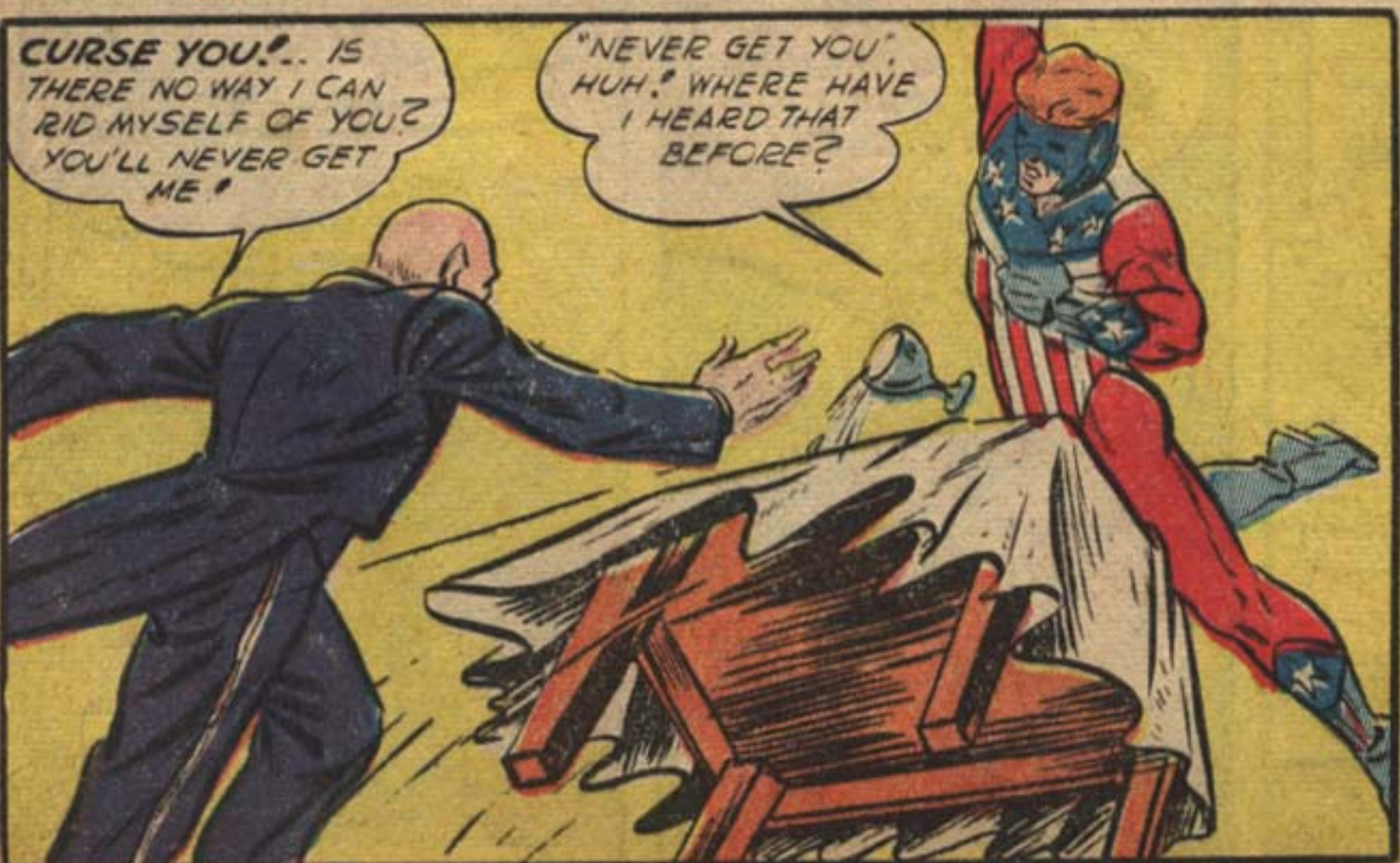
WELL, LOOKS WHO'S COMING, JU JU WATSON... WOW, AND IS HE PACKING A GROUCH!



HELLO, JU JU. WHY THE SOUR PUSS?

OH.. A.. HELLO, SHIELD?... IT'S MAMIE. SHE STOOD UP FER SOME PHONY COUNT!





WHEW! HOW THAT DEVIL CAN RUN! I'M ALMOST HAVING TROUBLE KEEPING UP WITH HIM!



IF I CAN GET INTO MY COFFIN BEFORE THE SHIELD CATCHES ME, HE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO TELL ME FROM THE OTHER CORPSES!

I'VE GOT HIM CORNERED NOW! HE'S MAKING FOR THE MAUSOLEUM! I'LL GET IN THE BACK WAY AND HEAD HIM OFF!

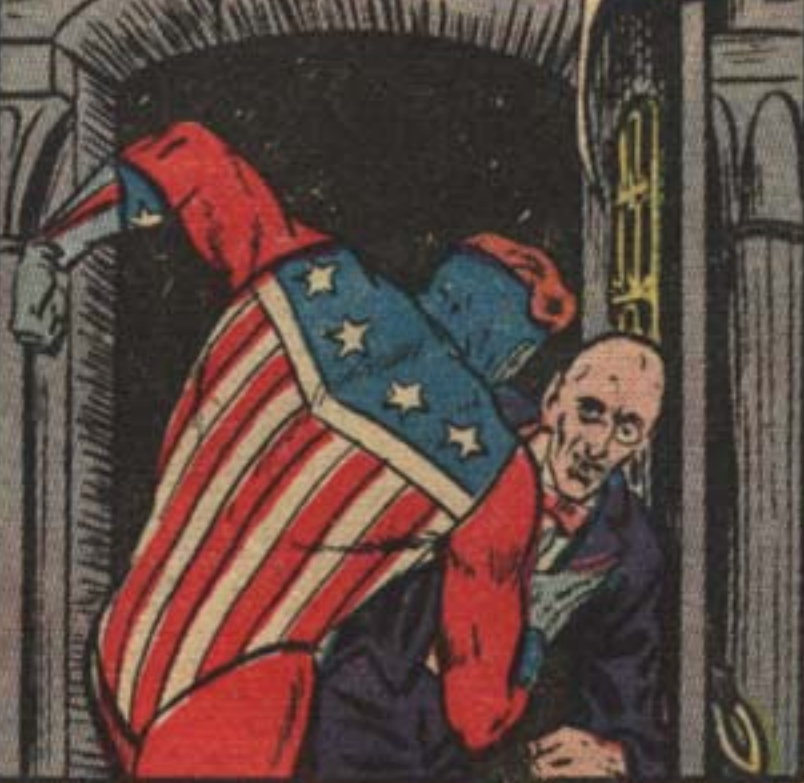


AH, ANOTHER MOMENT, I'LL BE SAFE FROM THE SHIELD!



WELCOME HOME, GHOUL!

THE DEVIL TAKE YOU, SHIELD! SO IT'S A FIGHT TO THE FINISH YOU WANT?



YES, A FIGHT TO THE FINISH - YOUR FINISH!



THE TITANS OF GOOD AND EVIL LOCK IN MORTAL COMBAT - AND THEIR HERCULEAN STRUGGLES CARRY THEM INTO THE GRAVEYARD!



UGH



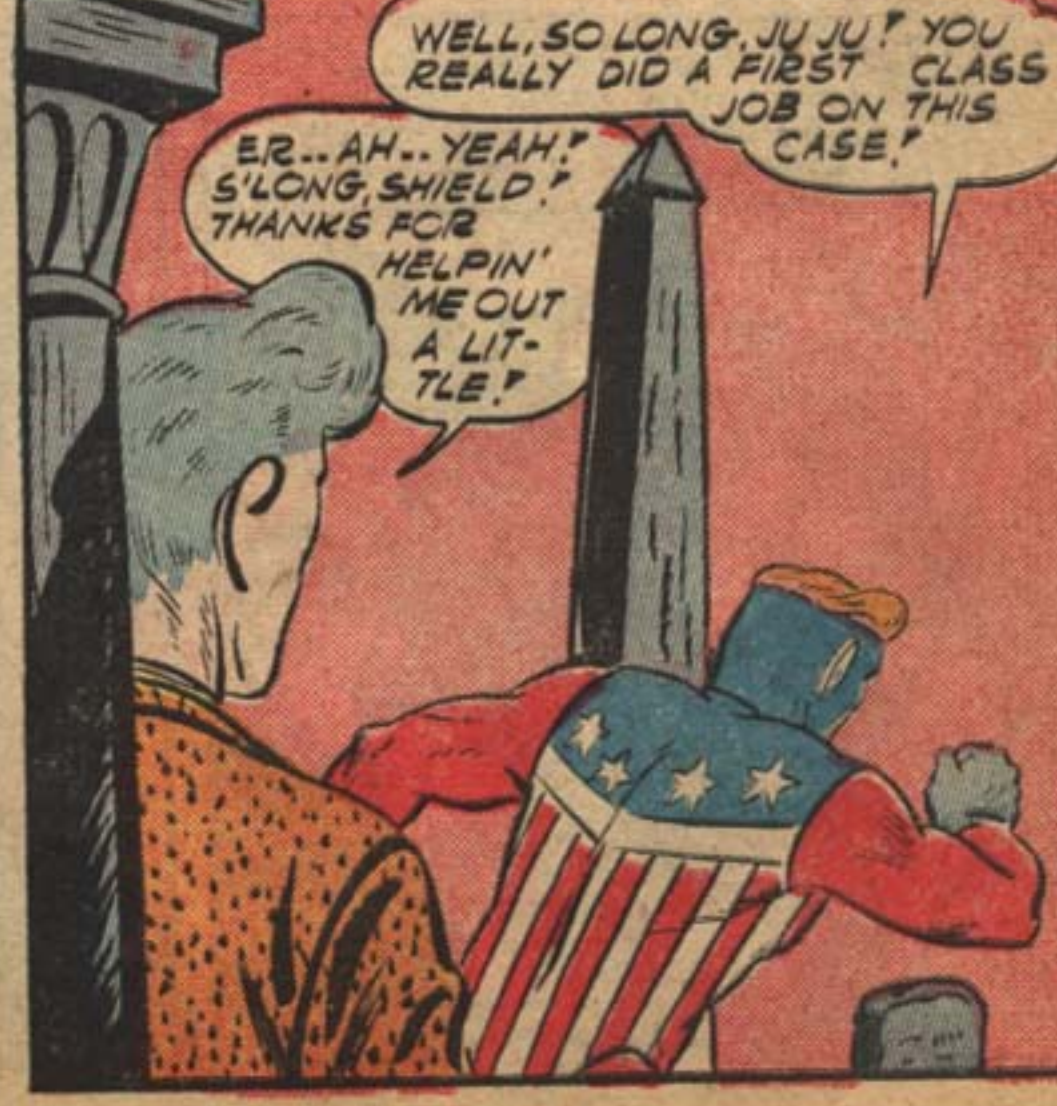
UP AND OVER YOU GO!

AND OUT!



BONG!







HIYA, DUSTY!  
EVERYTHING  
UNDER  
CONTROL?

YEAH, SHIELD!  
YOU LOOK  
LIKE YOU'VE  
HAD A BUSY  
NIGHT'S WORK!  
WHAT HAPPEN-  
ED?



IT'S ONE OF THOSE THINGS THAT  
ARE BEST FORGOTTEN ABOUT,  
LAD. AND...ER...DO ME A FAVOR,  
WILL YOU? BURN UP THAT BOOK  
ON VAMPIRES YOU WERE  
READING?



HIYA,  
MAMIE!

HUMMPH...! SO IT'S  
YOU, MR. WATSON, I  
HAVEN'T A THING TO  
SAY TO YOU!



WELL, I'VE GOT SOMETHING TO  
SAY TO YOU! DO YOU KNOW  
WHAT A VAMPIRE IS, WELL...

SO? NOW  
I'M A VAMPIRE,  
AM I? YOU  
LEAVE THIS  
HOUSE AT  
ONCE, JUJU...  
I DON'T  
EVER TALK  
TO ME  
AGAIN!

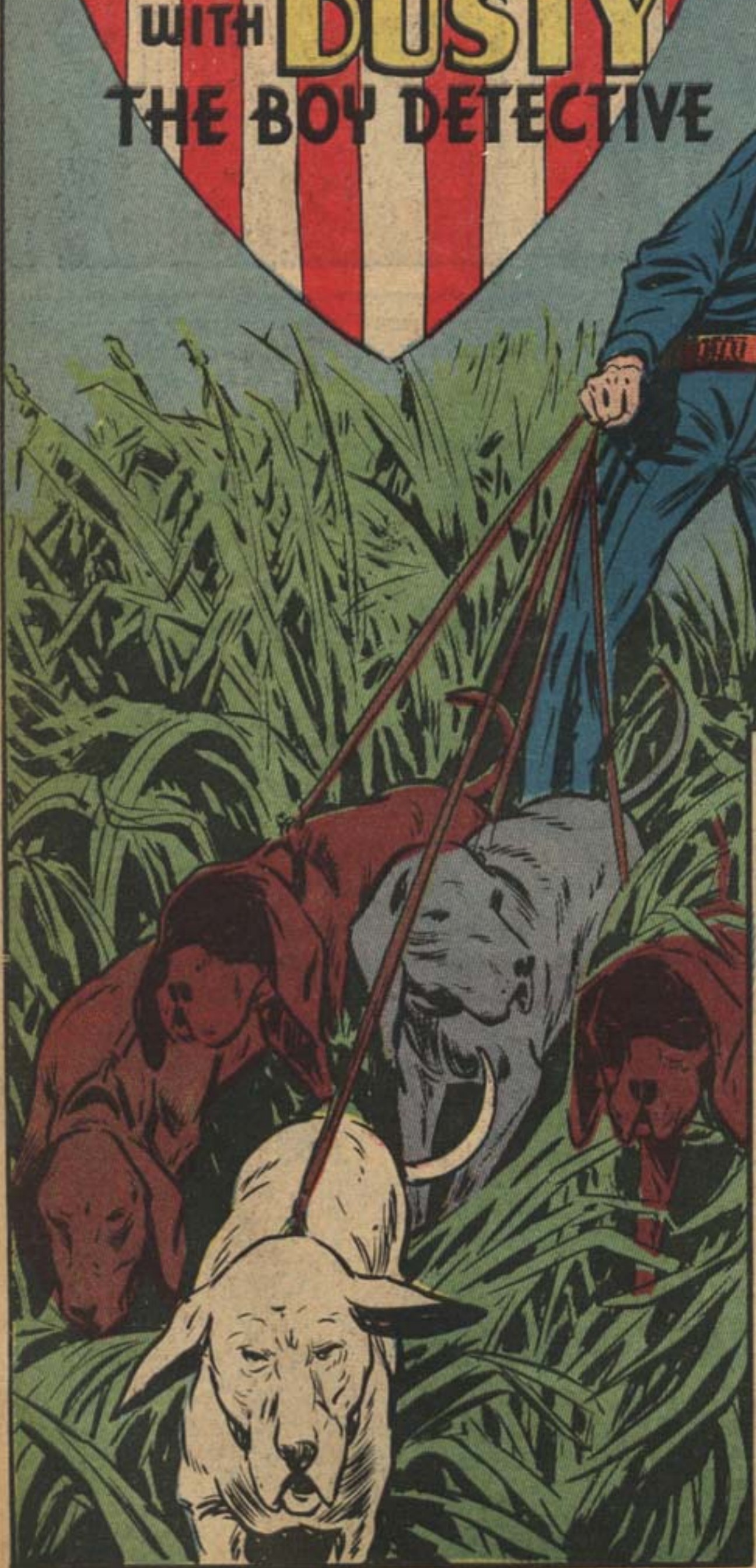


I DON'T  
MEAN YOU'RE  
THAT KIND OF  
VAMPIRE! I MEAN...  
AW NUTS! I CAN'T  
WIN! SO LONG!

# THE SHIELD

WITH **DUSTY**  
THE BOY DETECTIVE

PRISONER ESCAPED!  
OMINOUS WORDS WHICH PUT  
THE ENTIRE COUNTRYSIDE ON  
THE ALERT - AND WHICH BRING  
OUT THE POLICE IN A NATION-  
WIDE MANHUNT ??



EXHAUSTED, THE ESCAPED CONVICT  
SLOSHES UPSTREAM IN A DESPERATE AT-  
TEMPT TO THROW THE PURSUING HOUNDS  
OFF HIS SCENT....



...AND COLLAPSES IN THE RUSHES AS THE HOUNDS  
GO BAYING PAST?...



HOURS LATER, HE DRAGS HIS PAIN-WRACKED FRAME OUT OF THE MARSHES - AND CRAWLS TOWARD FREEDOM...



NEXT NIGHT A FIGURE SLINKS FURTIVELY, WATCHFULLY THROUGH THE CITY STREETS, MAKING HIS WAY TO A HOUSE...



...THEN BURSTS INTO AN APARTMENT...



IT'S THE CHIMP! WHADDA YOU WANT?

GORDON'S BUSTED OUTTA TH' BIG HOUSE! IT'S GOT ME SCARED, HOOKS!

HE'LL TRY'N GET TO ME FER SURE! HE KNOWS I'M THE ONLY GUY WHO CAN PROVE HIS ALIBI! YA GOTTA TAKE CARE O' ME LIKE YA PROMISED, HOOKS! YA GOTTA!



YOU BET I WILL, YA PUNK!

TAKE GOOD CARE O' HIM, BOYS! THIS DRIP'LL NEVER SHOOT OFF HIS MOUTH TO THE COPS!



HAW, HAW! YOU BETCHA WE WILL, HOOKS!

AT THAT MOMENT---



LET GO OF CHIMP, HOOKS!

HOLY JOE! IT'S GORDON!

YEAH! IT'S ME. YOU DIDN'T THINK I'D BE ABLE TO TRACK THE CHIMP DOWN SO QUICK, DID YOU? I'M GOING TO GET HIM TO TELL THE TRUTH TO THE COPS OR KILL HIM!



JUST THEN, ANOTHER OF HOOKS' THUGS ENTER, AND.....





OKAY! WE GOT GORDON NOW, CHIMP?... SO YOU DON'T GET KNOCKED OFF. NOW JUST PLAY BALL WITH HOOKS GAMBELLI AND YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT, SEE?

S... SURE, HOOKS! THANKS. I... I MUSTA LOST MY HEAD!



TAKE HIM OUT INTO THE COUNTRY FER A RIDE? HE LOOKS LIKE HE NEEDS PLENTY OF FRESH AIR AND FLOWERS!



AS THE THUGS DRAG THE UNCONSCIOUS GORDON INTO A CAR...

OOPS! SORRY I BUMPED YOU FELLOWS!.. SAY, THAT FELLOW'S HURT, ISN'T HE? CAN I HELP?

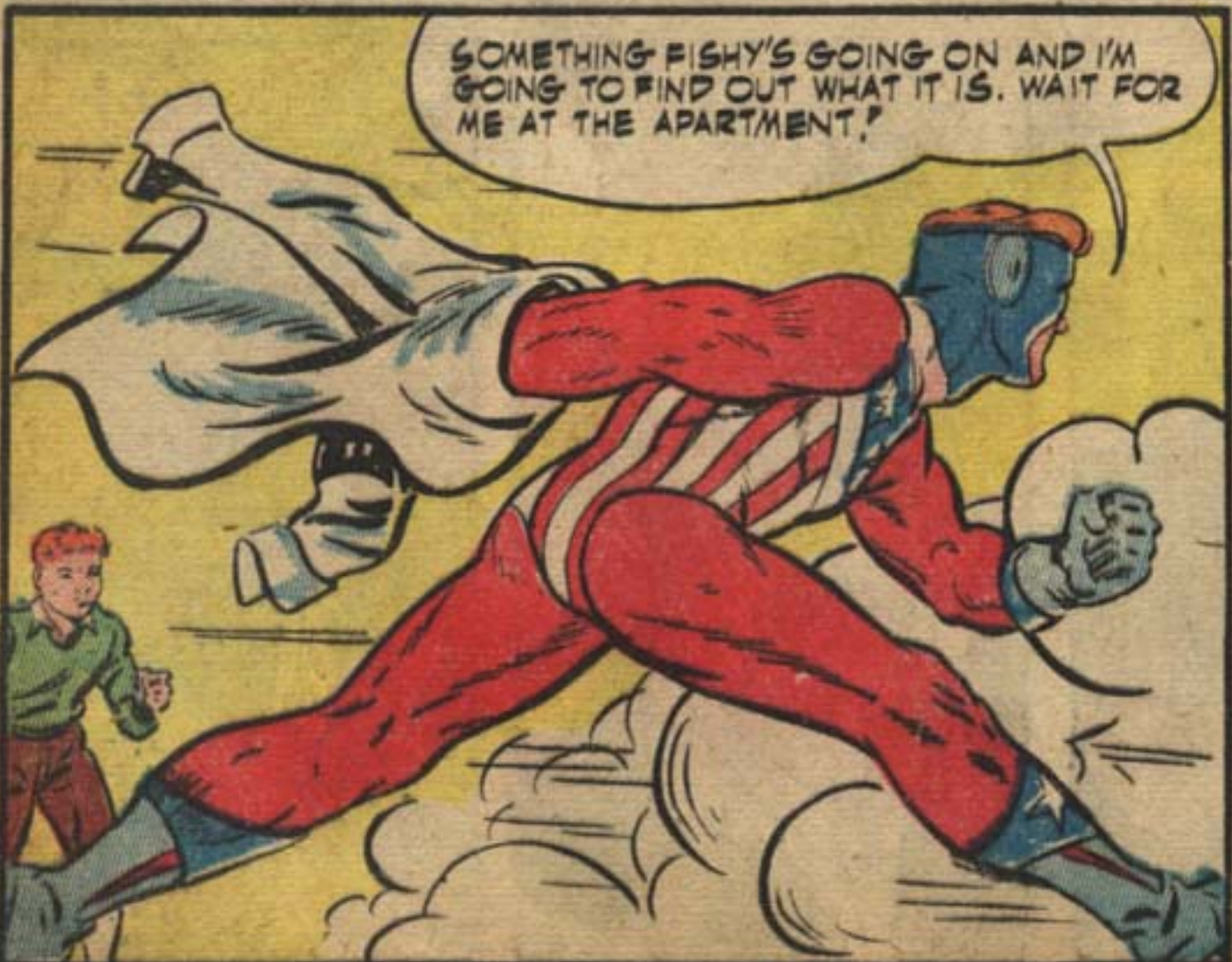


NAW! OUR PAL JUST HAD ONE TOO MUCH, THAT'S ALL! WE'RE TAKIN' HIM HOME. EVERYTHING'S UNDER CONTROL!



HEY, JOE! THAT GUY DIDN'T LOOK DRUNK TO ME!

NOR TO ME, DUSTY!



SOMETHING FISHY'S GOING ON AND I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT IT IS. WAIT FOR ME AT THE APARTMENT!



THIS IS FAR ENOUGH! GET THAT MUG OUTTA THERE, 'N I'LL FEED HIM LEAD WITH THIS TYPEWRITER!



HE'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT HIT HIM!



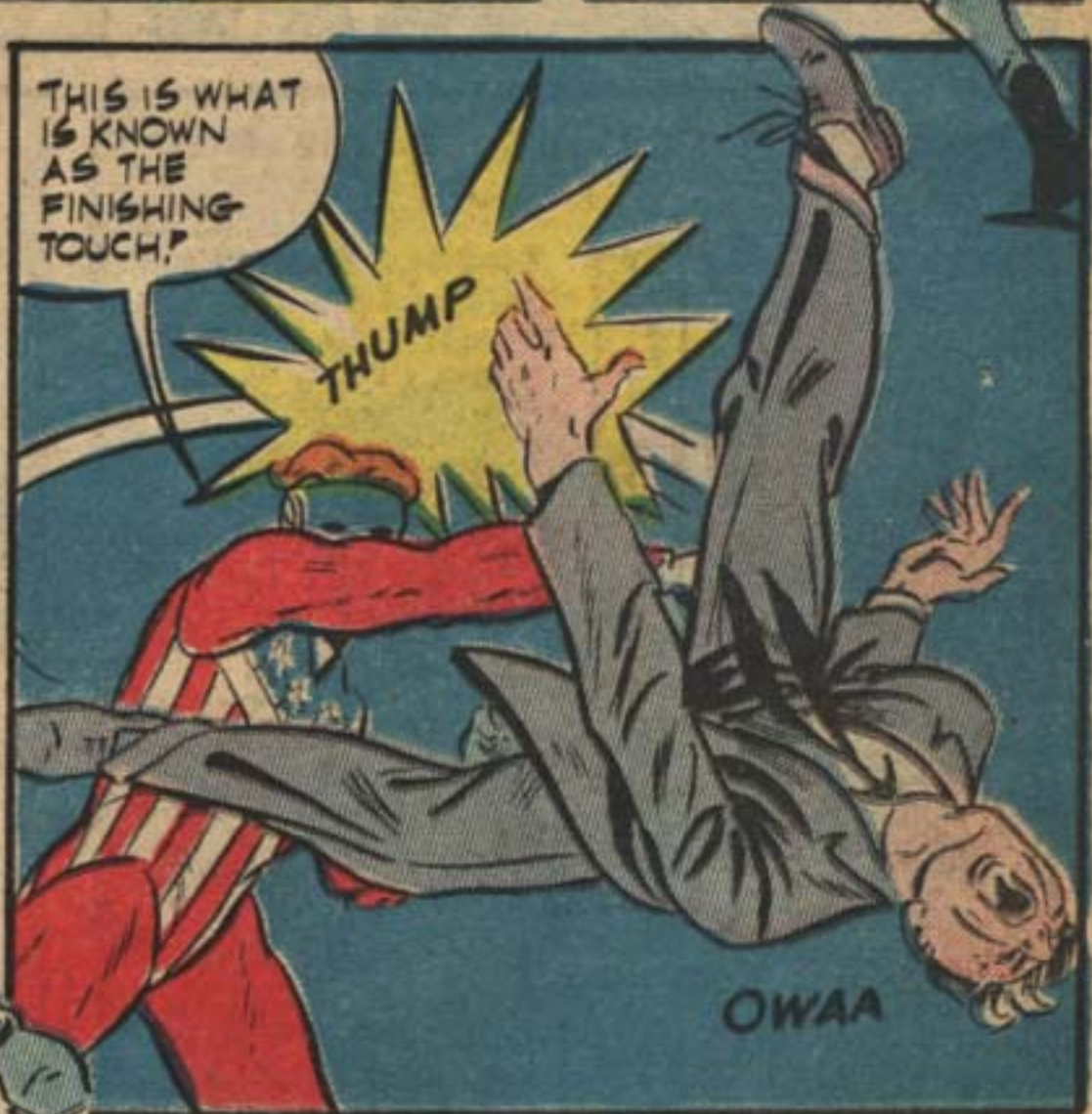
BUT YOU WILL!



SEE WHAT I MEAN?



DON'T FEEL HURT! I WON'T OVERLOOK YOU!



THIS IS WHAT IS KNOWN AS THE FINISHING TOUCH!

OWAA



NOW SUPPOSE YOU TELL ME WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT... HEY, I KNOW YOU! YOU'RE GORDON, THE ESCAPED CONVICT!

YES, SHIELD! BUT PLEASE LISTEN TO ME BEFORE YOU TURN ME IN. I'VE GONE THROUGH AGONY TO TRY AND CLEAR MYSELF!



I WAS THE DETECTIVE WHO WAS HOT ON GAMBELLI'S TRAIL. HE WAS PLENTY SCARED! SO HE FRAMED ME!



THE CHIMP IS THE ONLY OTHER MEMBER OF HIS GANG WHO KNOWS ABOUT MY BEING FRAMED — AND HE'S JUST RAT ENOUGH TO TALK IF THE PRESSURE IS PUT ON HIM!



THAT'S WHY I BROKE OUT... TO GET THE CHIMP! NOW I SUPPOSE, HOOKS'LL KNOCK HIM OFF TO MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T TALK... AND THAT'LL BE MY FINISH!

HMM... I'M GOING TO TAKE A LONG CHANCE ON YOU. YOU GO ON TO MY APARTMENT. I'LL TAKE OVER FROM HERE!



WITH EXPRESS-TRAIN SPEED, THE SHIELD RACES TO GAMBELLI'S APARTMENT...



...AND ARRIVES TO SEE...

GET GOIN', CHIMP!



WHAT'S UP, OFFICER?

WE'RE ARRESTIN' THE CHIMP, SHIELD! WE WERE ABLE TO PIN A JOB ON HIM... AND HE'S A SURE SHOT FOR THE PEN, THIS TIME!



WHILE IN THE SHIELD'S APARTMENT, GORDON ANXIOUSLY AWAITS HIS RETURN!....



SHIELD! DID YOU GET THE CHIMP TO TALK?... DID HE...

EASY, GORDON! I'VE GOT SOME BAD NEWS FOR YOU! THE CHIMP WAS JUST ARRESTED!



BOY, IF THAT AIN'T A LAUGH- ON ME! I GO THROUGH HADES AND HIGH WATER TO GET OUT OF PRISON TO GET HIM... AND THEY SEND HIM RIGHT BACK WHERE I CAME FROM! I GIVE UP!!



BUT I DON'T! I'VE GONE THIS FAR, SO I'M GOING ALL OUT!

BUT WHAT CAN YOU DO NOW?

JUST WATCH AND SEE I'LL BE RIGHT OUT... AND BE READY FOR A SURPRISE!



G... GREAT GHOSTS! YOU... YOU'RE PRACTICAL BY MY DOUBLE!

HOLY HAT!



WELL, IF YOU FEEL THAT WAY, I OUGHTN'T TO HAVE ANY TROUBLE FOOLING THE WARDEN! I'M GOING BACK TO PRISON, WHERE I CAN GET TO THE CHIMP! I'LL GET THE TRUTH OUT OF HIM, SOMEHOW! YOU LAY LOW HERE, UNTIL YOU HEAR FROM ME!



NEXT DAY....

GORDON JUST WALKED IN AND GAVE HIMSELF UP, WARDEN!

HMM! SO YOU REALIZED YOU COULDN'T GET AWAY, EH GORDON!



WELL, ANYWAY YOU SAVED YOURSELF A NICE LONG STRETCH IN SOLITARY.. BUT WE'RE STILL GOING TO TACK A COUPLE OF YEARS ONTO YOUR SENTENCE FOR THIS BUSINESS! NOW, GET TO YOUR CELL AND BEHAVE!



SO FAR SO GOOD! MY DISGUISE WORKED EVEN BETTER THAN I THOUGHT!



AND SO, THE SHIELD BEGINS THE MOST UNIQUE TASK OF HIS CAREER....

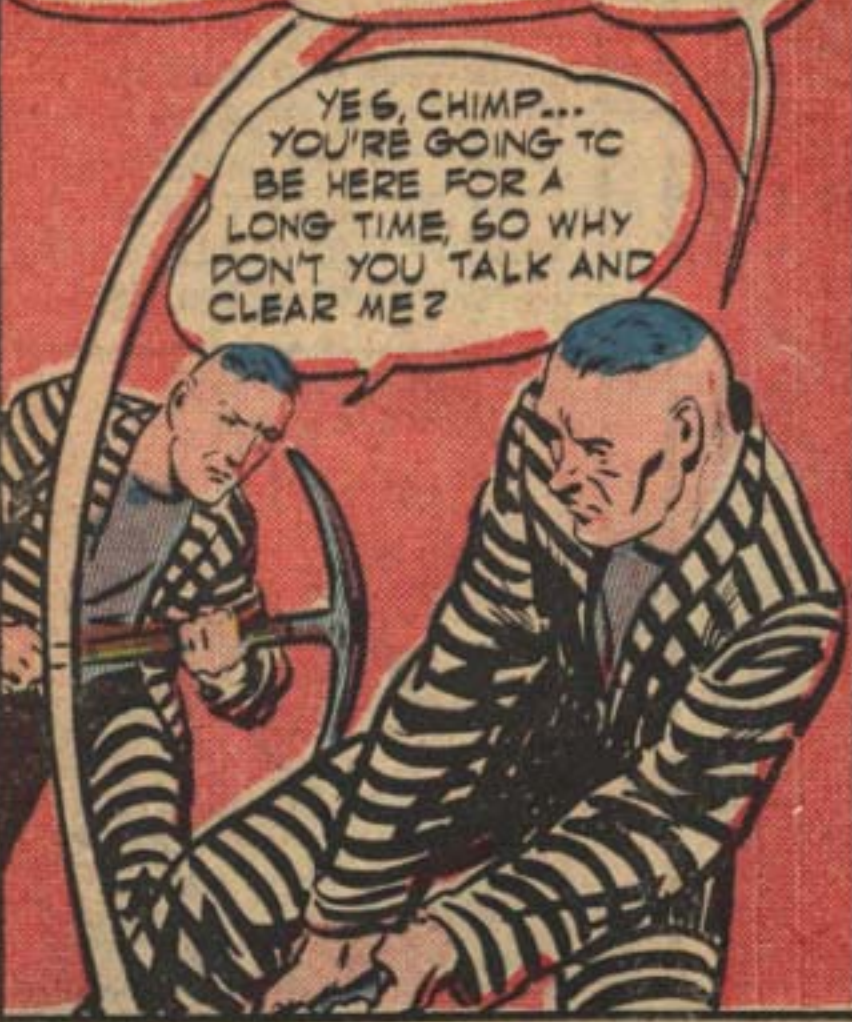


THERE'S CHIMP, NOW. I'LL JUST EDGE MY WAY UP TO HIM!





GORDON! SO THEY GOT YOU TOO!



YES, CHIMP... YOU'RE GOING TO BE HERE FOR A LONG TIME, SO WHY DON'T YOU TALK AND CLEAR ME?

BLAST YE! THINK I'M A SQUEALER, HUH? I'LL SHOW YUH!



UGH!

I'LL BREAK YOU YET, CHIMP! JUST AS EASILY AS THIS PICK-AXE!

CRIPES! YOU.. YOU BUSTED THAT THING JUST LIKE IT WUZ A TOOTH-PICK!



HEY! WHAT'S GOIN' ON HERE? BREAK IT UP YOU TWO!

THAT PUNK STARTED IT! HE TRIED TO BRAIN ME WITH MY OWN PICK-AXE!



STARTIN TROUBLE AGAIN, EH GORDON! GET BACK TO THAT ROCK PILE OR I'LL SLAP YOU IN SOLITARY UNTIL THE COWS COME HOME!



AND YOU CHIMP! KEEP YOUR NOSE CLEAN TOO SEEZ

BUT I TELL YA IT WUZ HIS FAULT! LOOK WHAT HE DID TO MY PICK-AXE!



WEEKS LATER...

BOY AM I GETTIN' NOWHERE FAST! THAT RAT HAS A PECULIAR CODE OF ETHICS AND HE JUST WON'T TALK!..OR MAYBE GORDON'S MADE A SUCKER OUT OF ME, AFTER ALL!



MEANWHILE...

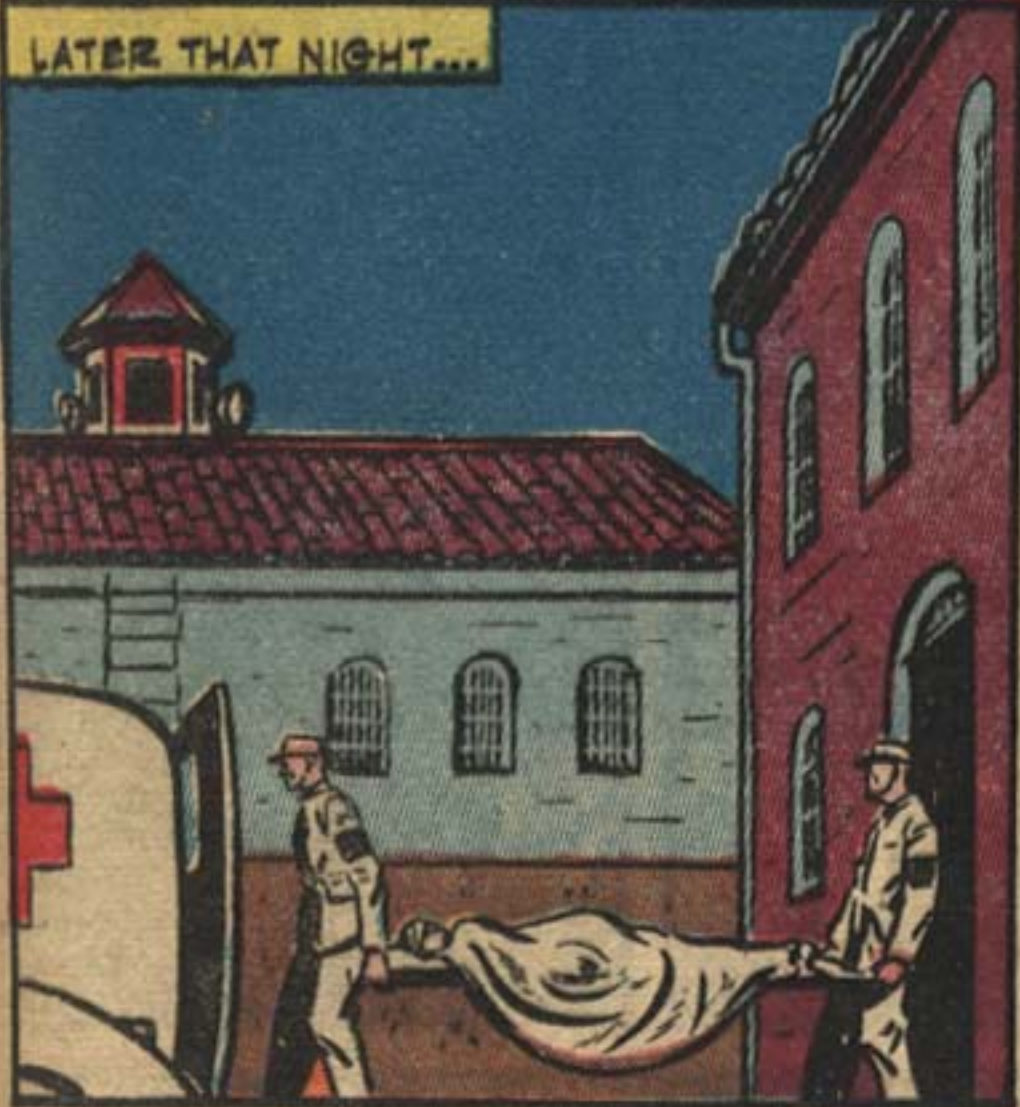
HEY, HOOKS! SOME OF THE BOYS JUST FOUND OUT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE THAT THE CHIMP IS GONNA BUST OUTTA THE PEN TONIGHT!



WHAT?... THAT SUITS ME FINE! IT'LL GIVE US A CHANCE TO CLOSE HIS MOUTH FOR GOOD! GET THE BOYS! WE'RE GONNA BE WAITIN OUTSIDE FOR THE CHIMP - AND HAVE A NICE RECEPTION FOR HIM!



LATER THAT NIGHT...



HERE COMES THE AMBULANCE. MUST BE ANOTHER EMERGENCY CASE THAT NEEDS OUTSIDE HOSPITAL ATTENTION!



HELLO, BOYS!... SORRY, I'LL HAVE TO HAVE A LOOK JUST TO MAKE SURE EVERYTHING'S OKAY. THAT'S THE RULES, YOU KNOW!



YEAH! WELL, I'M MAKIN' MY OWN RULES!

HELP! AARGH!



WHAT'S THAT? I THOUGHT I HEARD A CRY FOR HELP!



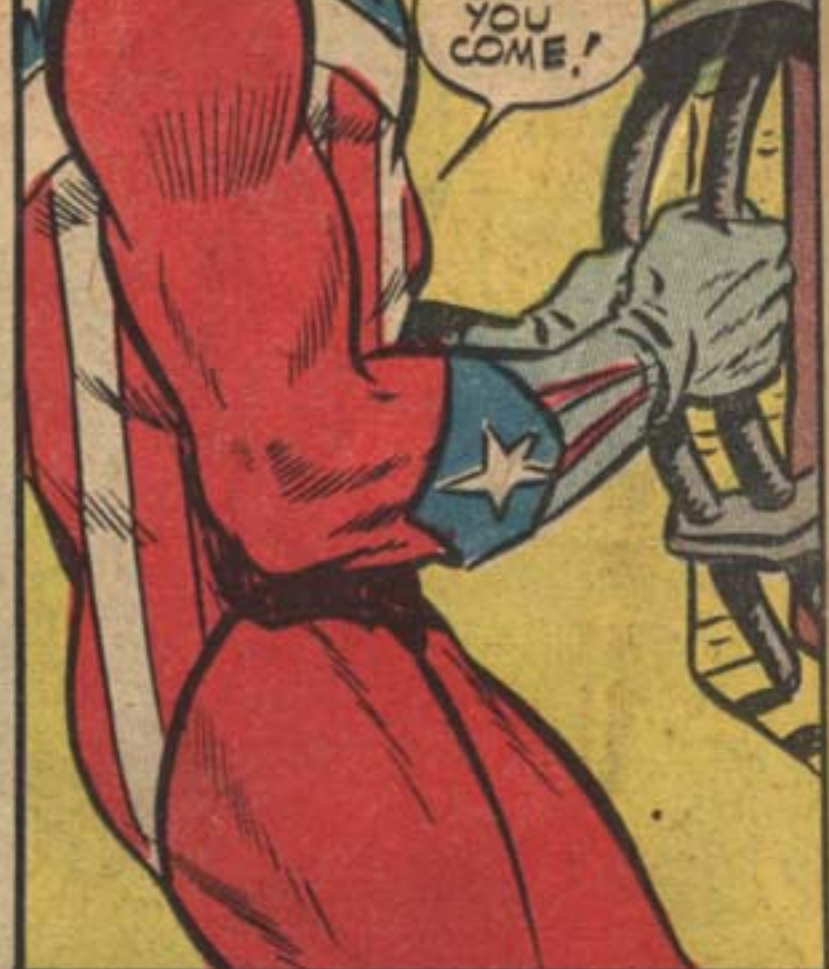
THE SHIELD LOOKS OUT, AND SEES...



IT'S A PRISON BREAK! HERE'S WHERE THE SHIELD SWINGS INTO ACTION!



OUT YOU COME!



THE BREAK'S BEEN SPOTTED! THERE GO THE SEARCHLIGHTS AND THE GIRENS!

WHEEEEE



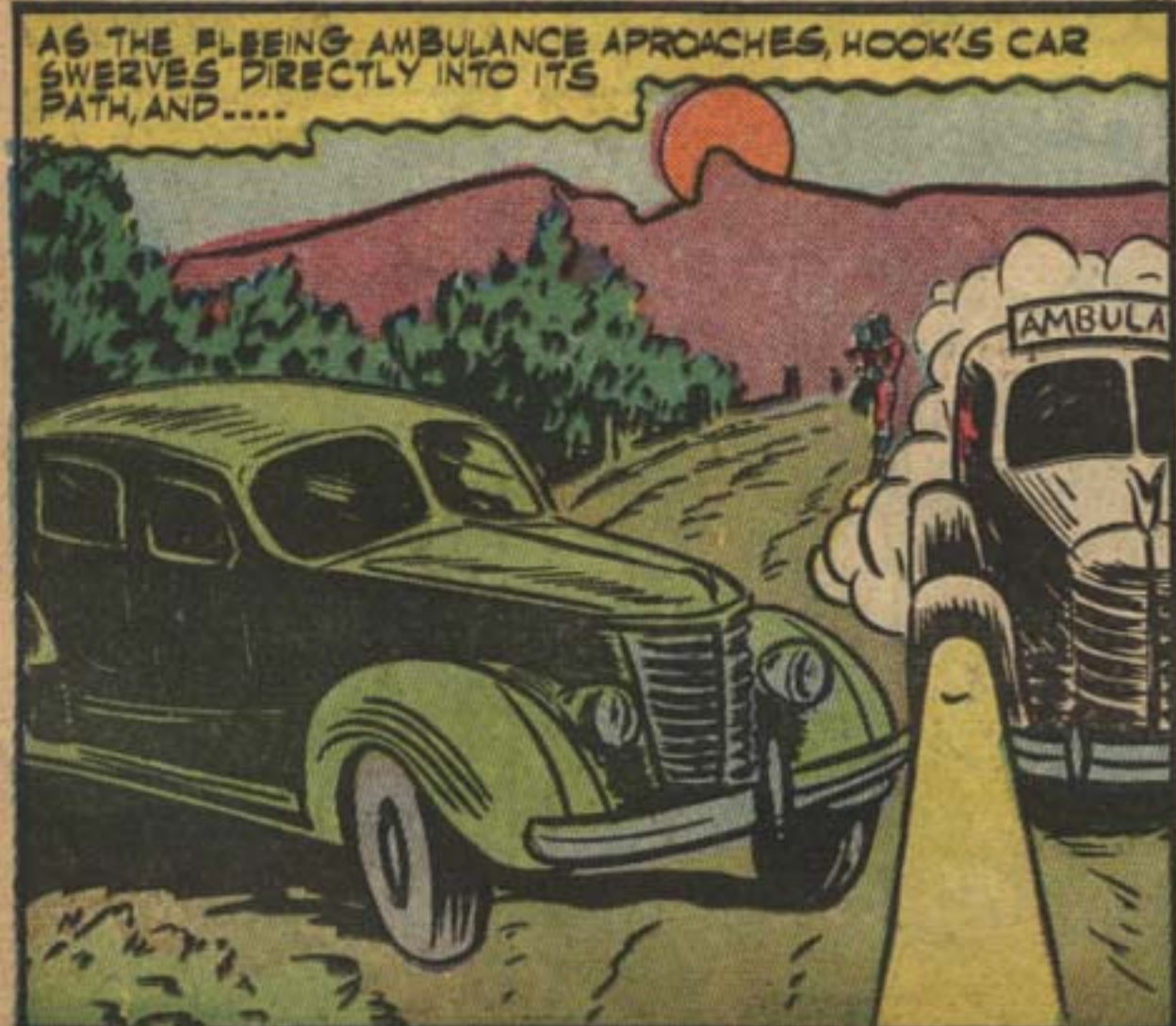
THERE GOES ONE OF 'EM! SHOOT HIM DOWN!



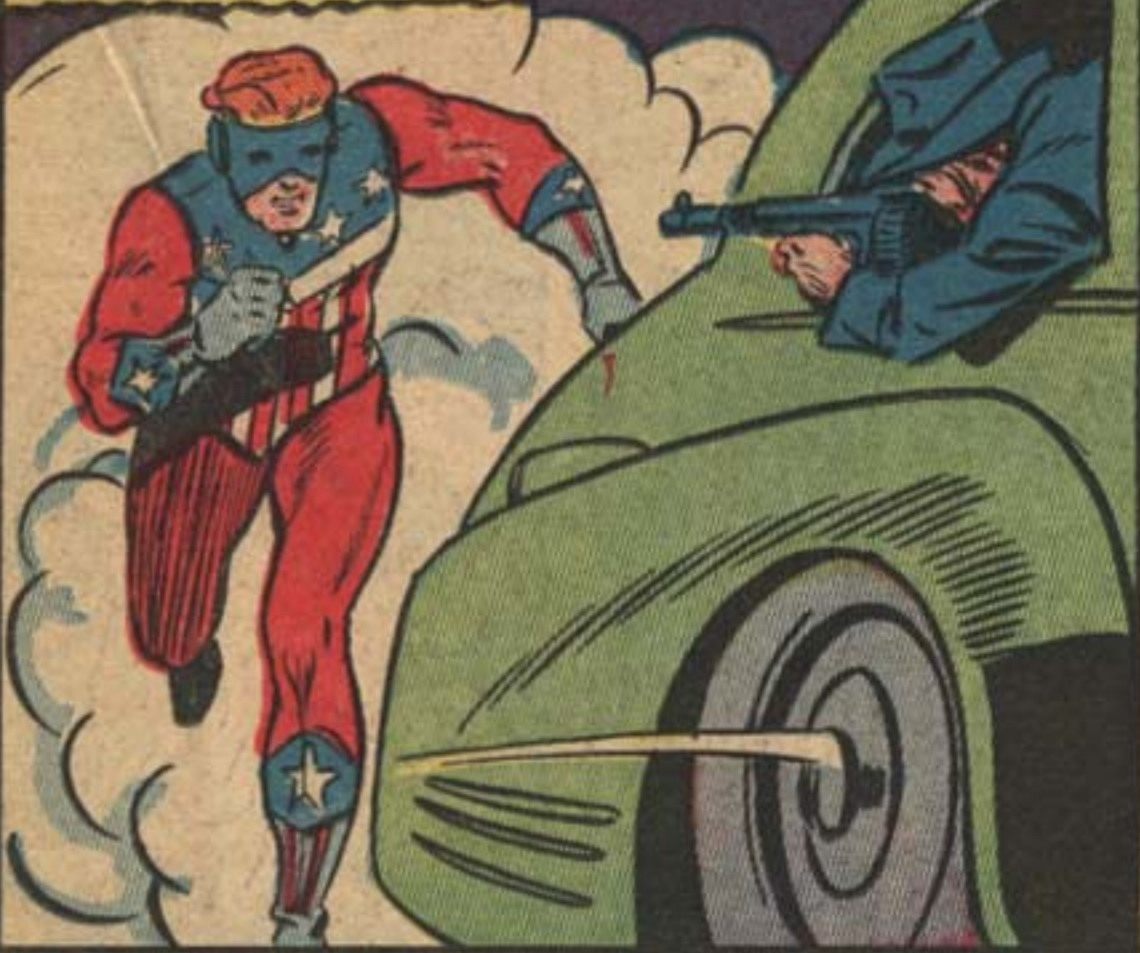
THERE COMES AN AMBULANCE, HOOKS! THE CHIMP MUST BE IN THERE!



AS THE FLEEING AMBULANCE APPROACHES, HOOK'S CAR SWERVES DIRECTLY INTO ITS PATH, AND.....



THE SHIELD IMMEDIATELY GIVES CHASE TO GAMBELLI'S CAR.....



SORRY, GENTS! NO TIME TO WASTE WITH YOU!



HOOKS GAMBELLI! WHAT A BREAK! IF THIS DOESN'T DO THE TRICK, NOTHING WILL!



THE SHIELD CARRIES THE UNCONSCIOUS GAMBELLI TO WHERE CHIMP LIES STRETCHED OUT ON THE GROUND....



LOOK, CHIMP! THIS IS THE COCKROACH YOU WOULDN'T SQUEAL ON! HE BROKE UP YOUR GETAWAY!



NOW WILL YOU TELL THE TRUTH ABOUT GAMBELLI'S FRAMING GORDON... BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE?

YES.. YES, I.. I'LL TELL EVERYTHING ABOUT THAT TWO-TIMING RAT!



JUST THEN, POLICE CARS COME SCREAMING UP!

LOOK! IT'S THE SHIELD!



THE SHIELD MAKES HIS WAY BACK TO THE WARDEN'S OFFICE.....



WARDEN, DON'T ASK QUESTIONS NOW... THERE'S NO TIME! JUST LISTEN TO WHAT CHIMP HAS TO TELL YOU!

B... BUT I DON'T. WELL, ALL RIGHT!



G... GORDON NEVER WUZ ON HOOK'S PAYROLL, 'N HE DIDN'T HAVE NO PART IN KILLIN' THAT WATCH-MAN. HOOKS AND ME FRAMED HIM INTO THAT... AARGHH!



HE'S DEAD!

YES, BUT I HEARD ENOUGH!



GORDON HAS BEEN DONE A GREAT INJUSTICE, AND I'M GOING TO SEE THAT HE IS VINDICATED! I'LL HAVE HIM BROUGHT HERE AT ONCE!

I'M AFRAID THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! I'LL HAVE TO GET HIM FOR YOU. YOU SEE IT'S THIS WAY...



LATER...

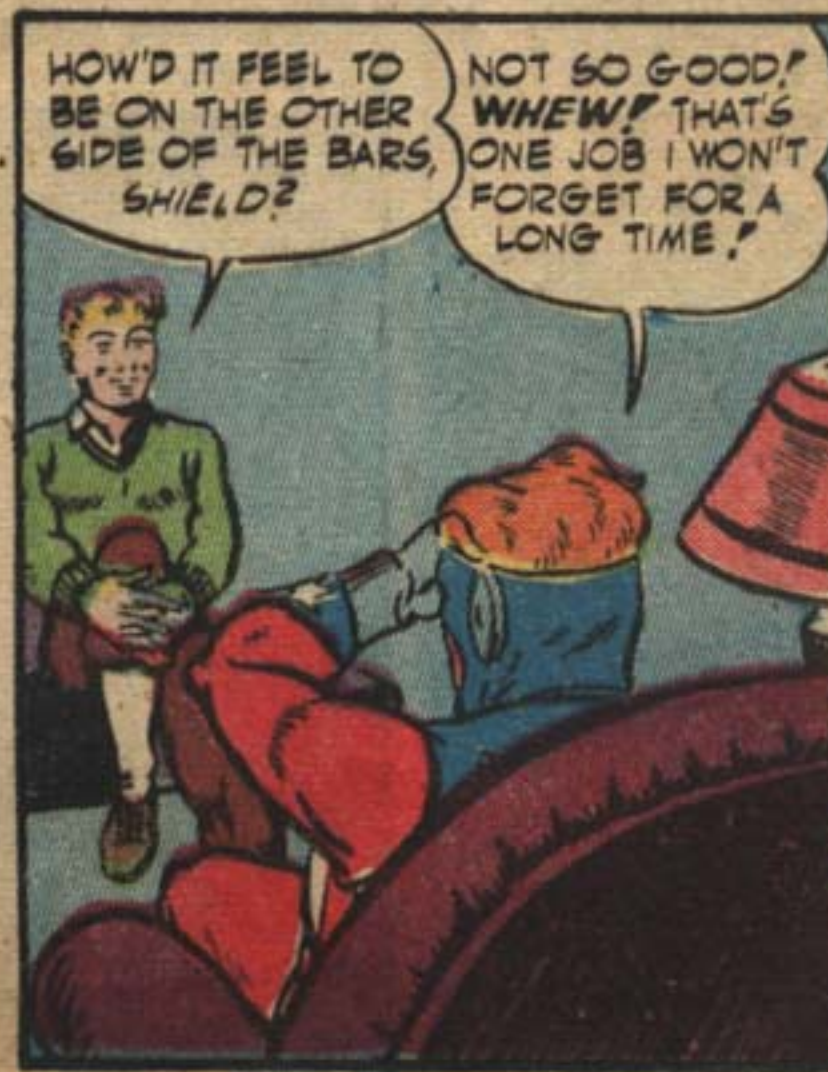
SHIELD! I WAS JUST ABOUT TO GO OUT AND SEE WHAT WAS UP!

EVERYTHING'S OKAY, NOW, DUSTY!



CHIMP TOLD EVERYTHING, GORDON! YOU'VE BEEN GRANTED AN OFFICIAL PARDON WITH IMMEDIATE RE-INSTATEMENT ON THE POLICE FORCE!

I... I DON'T KNOW HOW TO THANK YOU, SHIELD!



HOW'D IT FEEL TO BE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BARS, SHIELD?

NOT SO GOOD! WHEW! THAT'S ONE JOB I WON'T FORGET FOR A LONG TIME!

THE ORIGINAL SHIELD AND DUSTY THE BOY DETECTIVE APPEAR ONLY IN PEP comics AND SHIELD-WIZARD comics

# STARRING DUSTY

## THE SPECTACULAR BOY DETECTIVE

**C**AREENING MADLY THROUGH THE CITY STREETS TO ITS VERY OUTSKIRTS, WILDLY SHRIEKING FIRE ENGINES MAKE THEIR WAY TO A THREE ALARM FIRE, AND IN THEIR WAKE COME THE SHIELD AND DUSTY, THE BOY DETECTIVE, TO RENDER ASSISTANCE WHEREVER THEY ARE NEEDED..



LET THOSE WATER-PUMPS RIP!



WOW, WHATTA BLAZE, SHIELD!

YES, DUSTY. IT MUST'VE SPREAD LIKE WILD FIRE AND TRAPPED THE ENTIRE HOUSEHOLD!





YOU'RE RIGHT, SHIELD! LOOK UP THERE!



SHE'LL BURN TO DEATH BEFORE THE FIREMEN CAN GET TO HER... I BETTER HANDLE THIS MYSELF!



YOU CAN'T GO BACK IN THERE, ROSE, DEAR! THE PLACE IS AN INFERNO! OUR CHILDREN, GEORGE! THEY'RE IN THERE. TRAPPED! LET ME GO, I TELL YOU! LET ME GO!



STAY BACK, LADY! I'LL GET YOUR KIDS!



WHAT IN... HERE COMES ONE OF THEM! HEY YOU, ARE THERE ANY-MORE IN THERE!



M... MY BABY SISTER! I... I LEFT HER BEHIND!

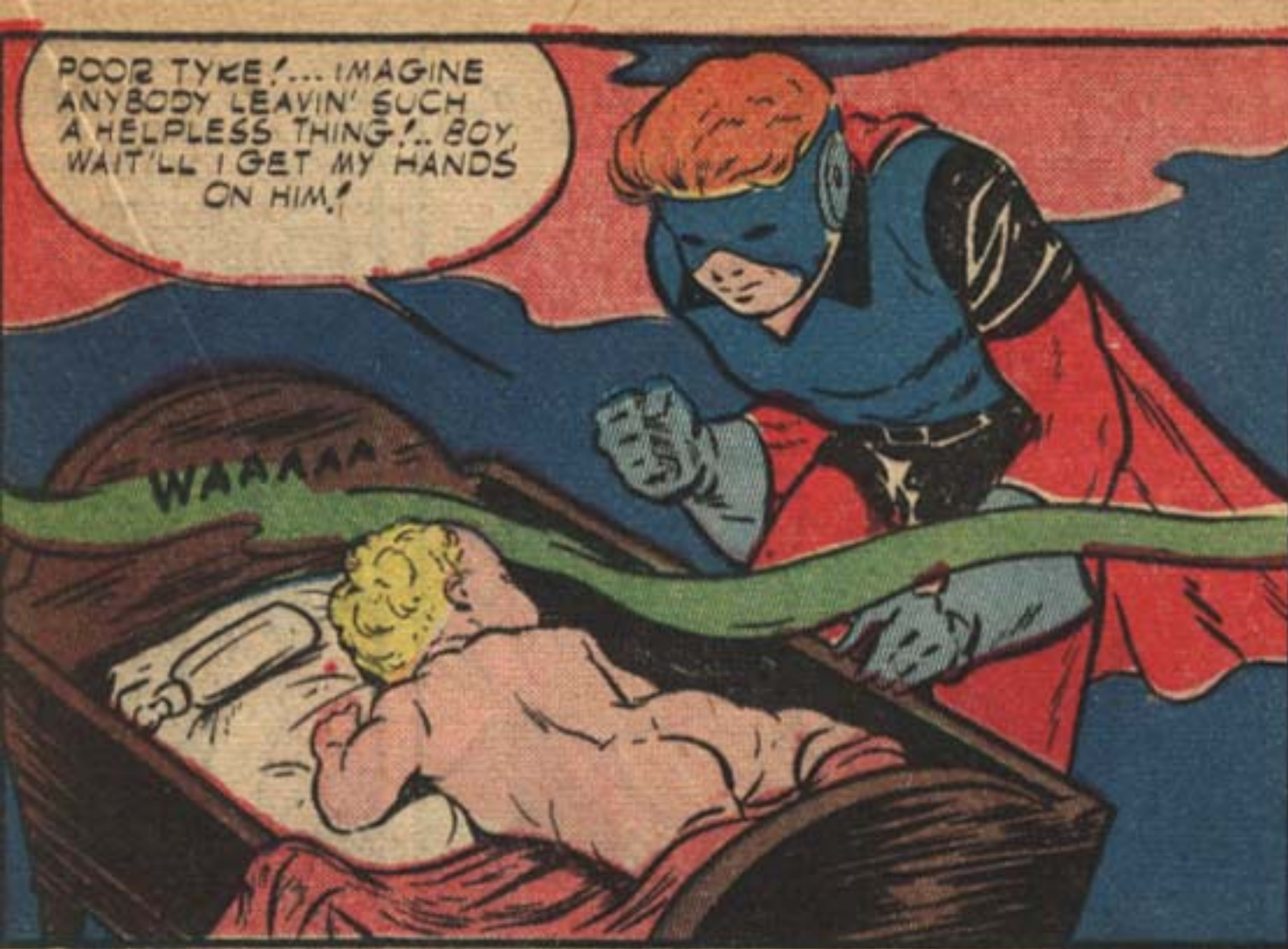


WHAT.. YOU LEFT YOUR OWN KID SISTER TO FRY IN THOSE FLAMES?? WHY YOU MISERABLE COWARD, I'LL HAVE PLENTY TO STRAIGHTEN OUT WITH YOU, LATER! FIRST, I'M GOIN' IN THERE AND GET HER! WHERE IS SHE?

IN THE CORNER BED-ROOM ON THE FIRST FLOOR!



THROUGH THICK, CHOKING SMOKE AND HUNGRY LICKING TONGUES OF FLAME, DUSTY MAKES HIS WAY UPSTAIRS....



POOR TYKE!... IMAGINE ANYBODY LEAVIN' SUCH A HELPLESS THING!.. BOY, WAIT'LL I GET MY HANDS ON HIM!



I CAN'T GO BACK DOWNSTAIRS.. FLAMES TOO THICK (COUGH, COUGH)! WINDOW MY ONLY CHANCE!



A DESPERATE LEAP FOR A TORN TELEGRAPH WIRE, A TENSE STRETCHING OF HIS LITHE YOUNG BODY FOR THE POLE HOOKS, AND.....



THE BOY DETECTIVE AND HIS PRECIOUS BURDEN ARE SOON SAFELY ON THE GROUND...  
OH, MY BABY! MY DARLING BABY!  
HOW CAN WE EVER THANK YOU, YOUNG MAN?  
GREAT WORK, LAD!.. COULDN'T HAVE DONE BETTER MYSELF!



THAT OTHER KID, YOUR SON, I SUPPOSE! WHERE IS HE?  
WHY, HE WENT OVER THERE, SOMEWHERE!



HEY, WHERE YOU GOING, DUSTY?  
TO FIND THAT KID! I'VE GOT A BONE TO PICK WITH HIM!



THERE HE IS.. AND SNIVEL-LING....



NOW, YOU WHIMPERING-LITTLE PUNK, YOU AND I ARE GONNA HAVE IT OUT. OF ALL THE COWARDLY THINGS I'VE EVER SEEN...  
Y..YES! HIT ME! (SNIFF SNIFF) PLEASE DO! DESERVE IT!





I... I LOVE MY SISTER... I'D SOONER HAVE DIED THAN TO HAVE LEFT HER THE WAY I DID (SOB, SOB). AND YET, WHEN THOSE FLAMES CLOSE TO US, I... I... LOST MY HEAD! I BECAME FRIGHTENED... LIKE I ALWAYS DO!



I'VE TRIED N' TRIED NOT TO BE AFRAID (SOB) B-BUT I JUST CAN'T HELP MYSELF. G.. GOLLY, I... I WISH I DID DIE IN THE FIRE! (SOB)

SAY, THIS KID REALLY MEANS IT... Hmm.. I BET HE COULD BE STRAIGHTENED OUT - 'N' I'D LIKE TO DO IT!



AW, CHEER UP, KID! EVERYTHING TURNED OUT ALL RIGHT! I WISH I COULD BE WITH YOU AWHILE! I BET WE'D BE GREAT PALS!



HELLO, GERALD, DEAR! WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?

OH, JUST AROUND! SAY DAD, CAN DUSTY STAY WITH US?



YOU BET HE CAN - AS LONG AS HE WANTS. I'D CONSIDER IT AN HONOR!

SWELL! IS IT OKAY WITH YOU TOO, SHIELD?

SURE, DUSTY, HAVE A GOOD TIME!



ONE WEEK LATER,

REMEMBER, NOW, GERALD!.. I'M REALLY GONNA PLOW INTO YOU! SO DON'T PULL YOUR PUNCHES!

IT'S OKAY BY ME, DUSTY!



HERE SHE COMES! AND DON'T SAY I DIDN'T WARN YOU! UGH!



HEY! THAT WAS NICE FOOTWORK! I MISSED YOU BY A MILE. DIDN'T KNOW YOU HAD IT IN YOU!

OH, I'VE TAKEN LOTS OF LESSONS!



ALL RIGHT, LET'S SEE YOU DO IT AGAIN.. COF!

WELL, WHY DIDN'T YOU SOCK ME?  
YOU HAD ME WIDE OPEN THAT  
TIME!

I... I TRIED TO... BUT  
SOMETHING HELD ME  
BACK \* THAT'S WHY I  
NEVER BOX - I... I CAN'T  
BRING MY-  
SELF TO  
HIT  
ANY-  
BODY!



AND MORE DAYS LATER

NOW WE'RE GONNA HAVE A  
FOOTBALL SESSION. I'M GOING  
TO PUT SOME ROUGH AND  
TUMBLE IN YOU... IF IT KILLS  
ME... TRY TO DODGE ME  
WHEN I TACKLE YOU!

ALL  
RIGHT!



YOU ZIGGED ALL RIGHT...  
BUT YOU FORGOT TO  
ZAG!



MY TURN, NOW!  
I'M COMIN' AT YA.  
READY?

R...READY!



HERE SHE RIPS!  
C'MON, GIVE!



HEY!  
I'LL BE...  
YOU  
LET ME  
PASS  
RIGHT  
BY!

AAHH! I GIVE UP! YOU'RE  
HOPELESS!

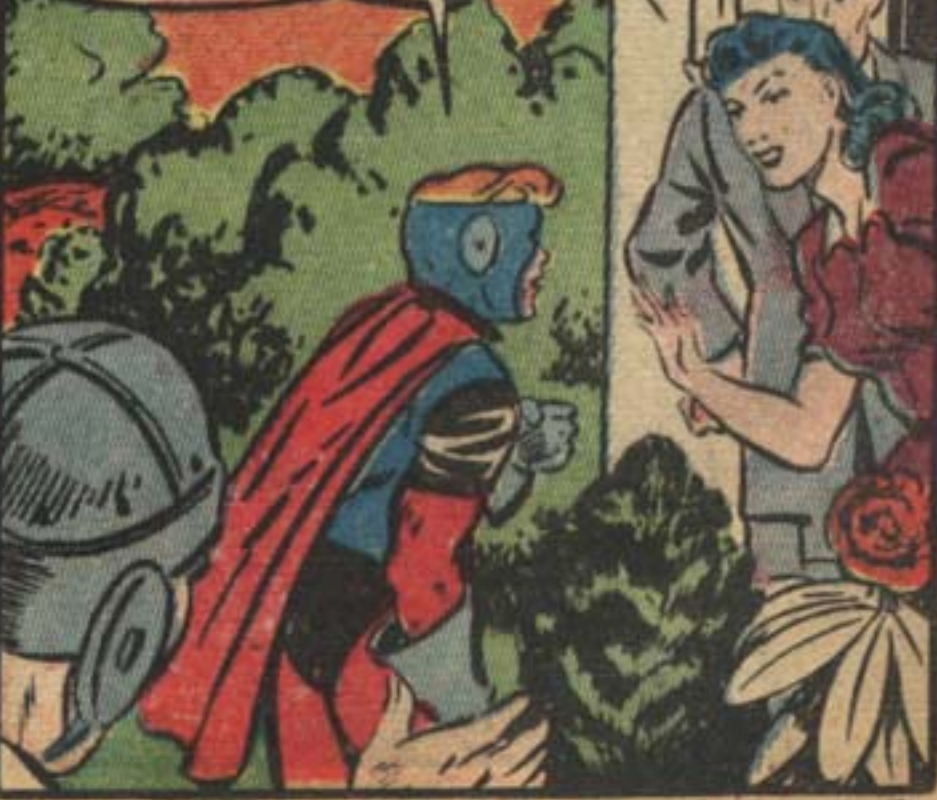


COMPARED TO YOURS,  
A JELLY FISH'S SPINE  
IS LIKE THE ROCK  
OF GIBRALTER!  
C'MON, LET'S  
GO BACK TO  
THE HOUSE!

I... I  
GUESS  
YOU'RE  
RIGHT,  
DUSTY. I'LL  
NEVER BE  
ANYTHING  
BUT A  
COWARD!



WELL, MR. AND MRS.  
WHITLEY! I GUESS  
I'VE OVERSTAYED  
MY WELCOME.. I'LL  
LEAVE TOMORROW!



PLEASE DON'T FEEL  
THAT WAY, AND  
YOU'RE ALWAYS  
WELCOME HERE!

HO HUM! WELL, IF I GOT NOTHING ELSE, I GOT A GOOD WORKOUT OUTTA THIS REFORM MOVEMENT OF MINE. I GUESS I'LL HIT THE HAY!



LATER THAT EVENING—



(GULP) I JUST HADDA COME 'N' TELL YOU THIS, PRISSY!



YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND NOW, BUT SOMEDAY YOU WILL — HOW YOUR BIG BROTHER FAILED YOU WHEN YOU NEEDED HIM MOST. AND NOW I'M FAILIN' MY PAL, DUSTY, TOO!



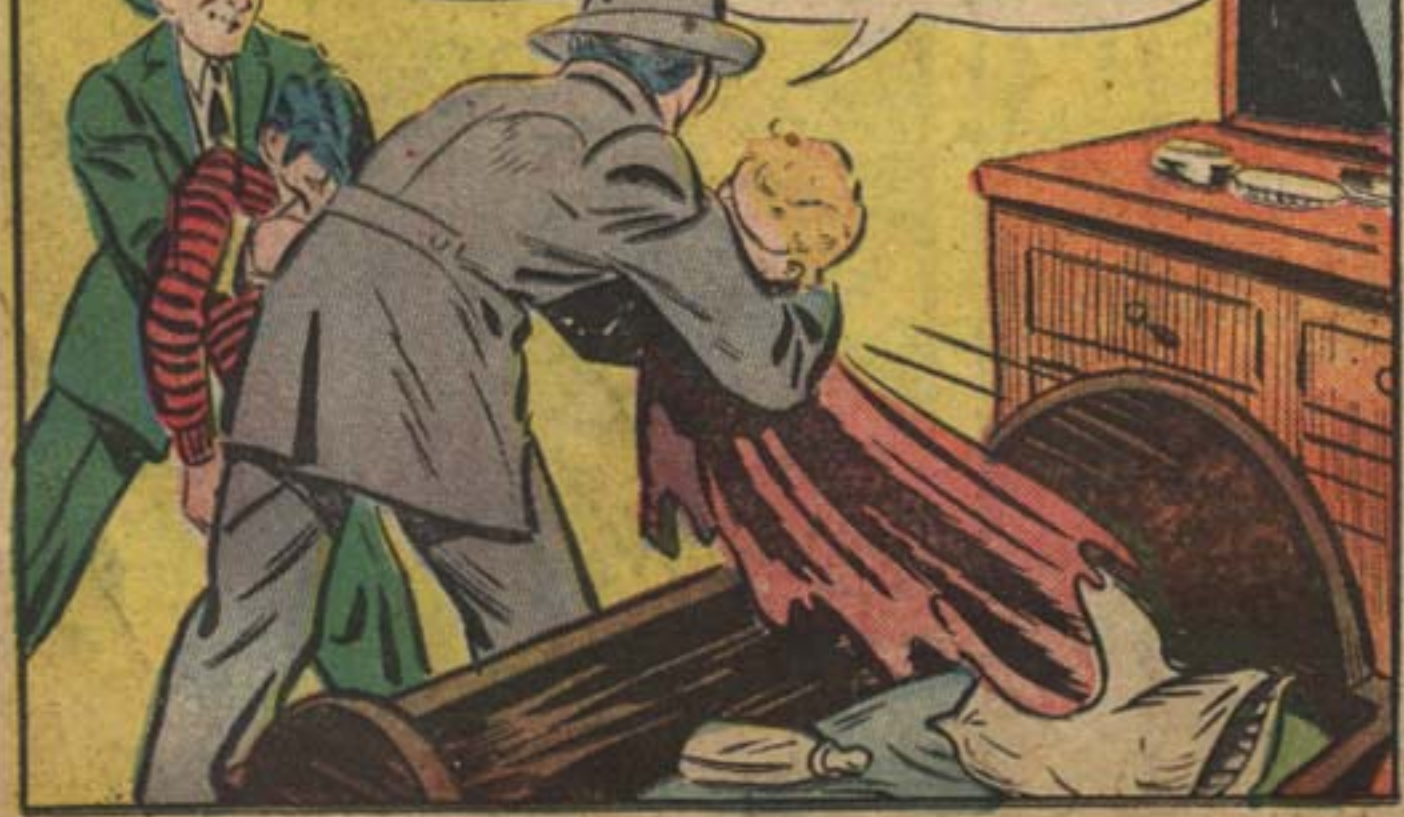
SUDDENLY..



GIVE IT TO HIM QUICK, BEFORE HE'SQUAWKS, LEFTY!



BOY OBOY!.. WE'RE IN LUCK TONIGHT! WE FIGURED ON ONLY SNATCHIN' ONE O' THEM — BUT THIS DOUBLE HAUL'LL BE A BONANZA FER US!



JUST THEN

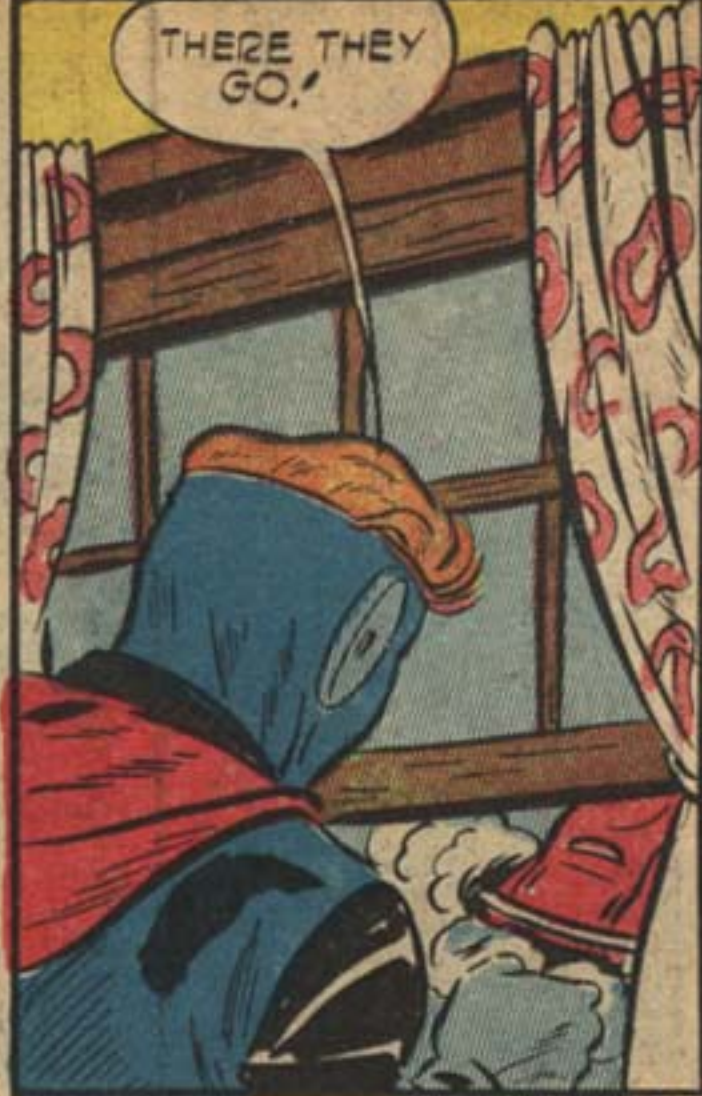
MAYBE IT'S JUST MY IMAGINATION BUT I COULD SWEAR I HEARD STRANGE NOISES IN PRISSY'S ROOM!



HOLY JOE! I WAS RIGHT!  
SHE'S BEEN KIDNAPPED!



THERE THEY GO!



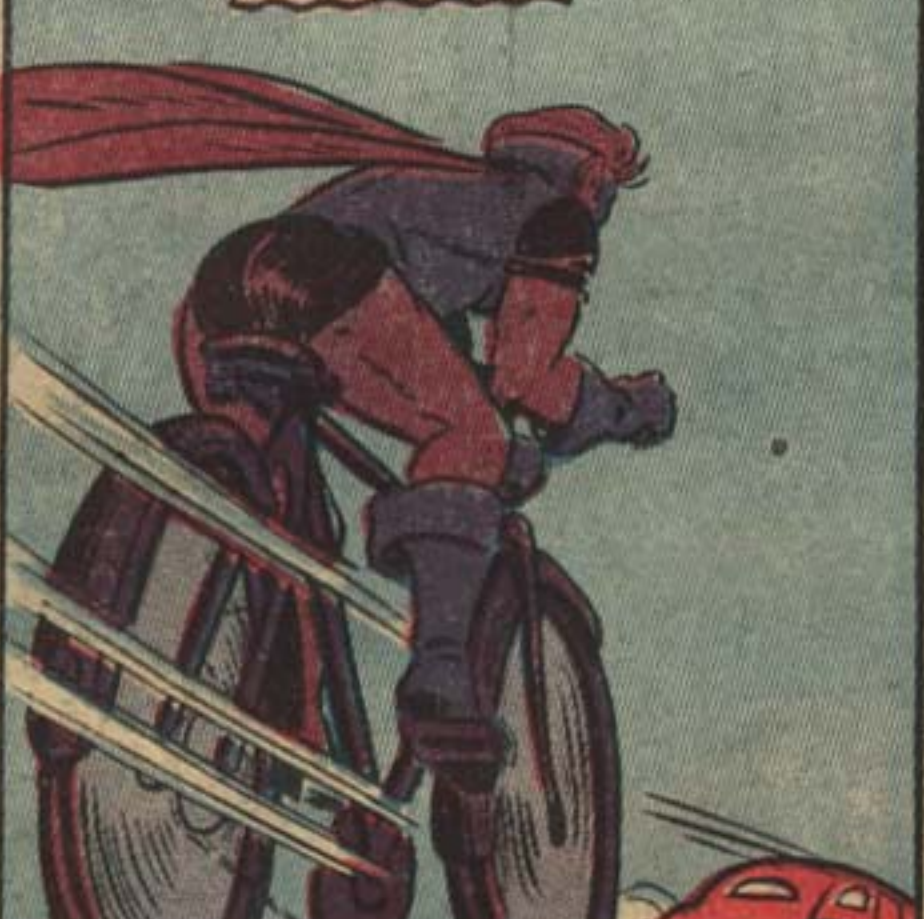
AND ME  
RIGHT WITH  
THEM!



LUCKY THING GERALD  
LEFT HIS BIKE LYING  
AROUND!



PEDALING LIKE A DEMON, THE BOY DETECTIVE  
KEEPS ON THE TRAIL OF THE KID-  
NAPPERS....



UP LONG, ARDUOUS HILLS, DOWN  
PRECIPITOUS SLOPES, DUSTY  
HANGS ON WITH GRIM TENACITY!



IF I GO DOWN THIS HILL, I CAN  
HEAD THEM OFF BEFORE THE NEXT  
BEND IN THE ROAD!



I DID IT ALL RIGHT!... NOW TO  
FIGURE SOME WAY TO STOP 'EM...  
HEY, THIS BOULDER PERCHED  
UP HERE...





IF I CAN ROLL IT OFF IT'LL CLOG UP THE ROAD!



LEFTY! THE ROADS BLOCKED UP AHEAD!

WELL, STOP THIS CAR. WE'LL CLEAR THE BOULDER AWAY. QUICK!



OOF!... IT'S HEAVY!

C'MON, C'MON! ENAP IT UP! WE AIN'T GOT ALL DAY!



HIYA, BOYS! MIND IF I DROP IN?

PHFTTT



YOU BABY BANDITS DON'T SEEM TO BE SO TOUGH WITH SOMEBODY WHO'LL GIVE YOU A FIGHT!

BONG



HERE'S A LITTLE FORGET-ME-NOT FOR YOU, TOO!

GLUG POP



SUDDENLY, A LOOSE ROCK TUMBLES DOWN, AND...

BOP

OOPH!



THE BLANKETY BLANK BRAT!... I'LL FIX YOU NOW-FER GOOD!



REMEMBER THIS PICTURE

YOU'LL SEE IT ON THE COVER OF THE *NOVEMBER ISSUE*  
OF *PEP COMICS*. AND IT'LL MEAN THAT YOU'RE IN FOR SOME  
OF THE MOST STIRRING READING THRILLS OF YOUR LIFE WITH—

*THE SHIELD* AND *DUSTY*, THE SPEC-  
TACULAR BOY DETECTIVE AND  
**THE HANGMAN—**  
COMICS' NEWEST SMASH HIT!'



# THE VOODOO MURDERS!

## A SHIELD STORY

The Shield and Dusty, the boy Detective, stared at the man, horror-stricken as he doubled up in intense pain and fell to the floor, moaning and writhing. A crimson pool spurted from his mouth. They rushed over to the writhing, agonized Theodore Barclay, and the Shield lifted his head from the floor. "Voodoo, Charles, attic, that's why I sent for you". Those were the last words which the old man uttered. His head dropped and with one last convulsive heave he was dead.

"It looks like a case of sudden heart attack and internal hemorrhage", said Joe as he placed the body of the dead man on the davenport. "Yet it doesn't seem possible, he looked so strong and healthy as he spoke to us". "Wonder what he meant when he mentioned Voodooism?" responded Dusty.

Suddenly, a deathly white pallor crept over the Shield's face. He grasped at his throat, he could hardly breathe, moisture began to roll down his face. Never before had he experienced anything like it. He felt rooted to the spot. Was his imagination playing tricks on him? Was the mention of Voodooism and the death of Mr. Barclay working havoc with his mind? The Shield's muscles straining with the fierce paralyzing numbness which engulfed them fought feverishly against this strange, unseen force. Suddenly, straining his great strength almost to the last shred, he seemed to break out of the chains of pain, and the gripping paralysis was expelled from his magnificent body.

Now Dusty's face became milk white, and he was clutching at his legs, shouting hoarsely, "Shield, Shield I'm paralyzed, I can't move my legs".

The Shield was dumbstruck. What strange power had extended itself into this room to snuff out the life of a harmless old man and mysteriously wrap itself around himself and Dusty. Suddenly, the words "Voodoo, Charles, Attic", flashed before his mind. With one cat-like bound the Shield reached the top of the stairs. He burst into the attic, inky black emptiness greeted him. His sensitive eyes peered through the murky darkness revealing nothing but blank walls. Frantically he looked around the room. Then, his powerful hearing detected the faint sound of laughter. It seemed to come from within the opposite wall. He was across the room with one bound, his shoulder crashing through the wall as he landed. And he burst right through, into a small room, which had been secretly built within the wall panels.

A strange sight greeted him. The ugliest, most misshapen man he had ever seen squatted before a fireplace, the flickering flames making a grotesque pattern of dancing shadows across his face. Maniacal chuckles seeped through his lips as he injected tiny darts into a small rag doll which bore a strange resemblance to Dusty. It was black magic in action. The Shield had heard of it before, but had never actually witnessed it. He had heard of witch doctors throwing curses at the heads of intended victims

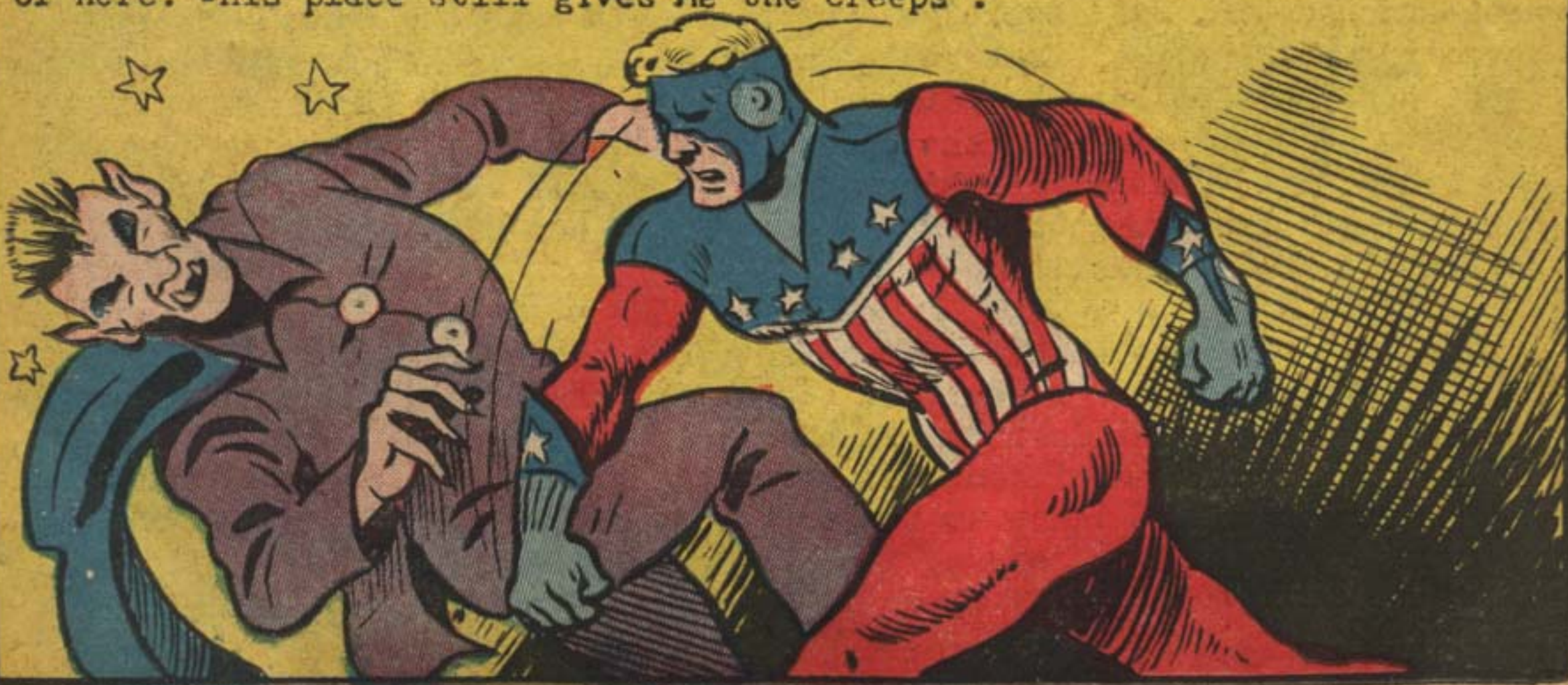


and then making these tiny images of them and putting them to death slowly and torturously by injecting darts into their corresponding dolls.

The monster turned, as the Shield crashed into the room. Seeing him he hurriedly tried to inject one of the pins into the heart of the doll, which would bring about the death of Dusty. The Shield leaped at his throat and sent him sprawling across the laboratory. The hideous creature got up shrieking wildly "Blast you Shield Blast you, you are the only person alive who has ever been able to break my spell, but I have you now".

He grabbed one of his deadly, poisonous darts from the table and rushed in blind fury at him. The Shield calmly grabbed his wrist and snapped it as though it were a twig, and the dart fell harmlessly to the floor. The man looked about him wildly, saw no way of escape, and suddenly pulled a small doll from inside his shirt. A violent heave into the fireplace in the corner of the room, a wild shriek- and he suddenly burst into flames before the Shield'd unbelieving eyes. Before the Shield could reach him, he was practically reduced to ashes. Picking up the image of Dusty, The Shield plucked the darts out hurriedly, and raced downstairs. He found Dusty getting to his feet groggily, a bit shaken up, but evidently suffering no serious consequences.

The Shield explained to Dusty that certain notes which he had found scattered around the laboratory had cleared up this mysterious situation for him. Charles Barclay was the brother of Theodore Barclay. In his youth he had been an explorer and adventurer. During his travels he had become extremely interested in the practice of Voodooism, to such an extent that his mind had been affected by it. His brother had taken him home and lived a secluded life with him, shutting themselves off from the rest of the world. Evidently the spirit of Voodooism had so poisoned his mind that he had become unruly and started to practice it again. When his brother objected and called in help he had killed him, "and then", the Shield said, "The dodo tried his black tricks on us when he saw us come in. Frankly, he almost had me". Dusty shuddered with the recollection of his grisly experience. "Me too," he said. "Come on Shield, let's get out of here. This place still gives me the creeps".



# The WIZARD

## with ROY, the SUPER-BOY



FORTY THOUSAND THROATS ROAR IN UNISON AS THUNDERING HOOFS APPROACH THE FINISH LINE. THEN JET BLACK PULLS AHEAD OF THE PACK AND AS HE ROUNDS THE LAST TURN, SUDDENLY COMES TO AN ABRUPT HALT WHINNYING AS THOUGH HE HAD GONE BERSERK, JET BLACK REARS UP UP MADLY...



...THEN HURTTLES OVER THE RAILING INTO THE HORRIFIED CROWD!

HE'S A KILLER!

HELP!



LEAP-ING TO THE RES-CUE...THE WIZARD AND ROY THE SUPERBOY.

by Harry Shorten and Paul Remman





SAY, HERE'S SOMETHING I HAVEN'T NOTICED BEFORE! YOUR HORSE'S EYES ARE BLOODSHOT!

I KNEW IT! SOMEBODY DID SOMETHING TO JET BLACK!

HE'S TOO GENTLE AN ANIMAL TO HAVE BEHAVED THE WAY HE DID, OTHERWISE. WELL, I GUESS I'M SUNK! I LOST THE PURSE I NEEDED SO BADLY AND I HAVE NO MONEY TO GET ANOTHER JOCKEY! I'D BANKED EVERYTHING ON THIS RACE!

LOOK! I GOT AN IDEA! HOW'S ABOUT LETTIN' ME BE YOUR JOCKEY?... IF THERE'S ANY DIRTY WORK AFOOT, I'D WANNA BE AROUND ANYWAY!



YOU'RE A LIFE-SAVER, SON! IF YOU CAN RIDE A HORSE THE WAY YOU JUST DID, JET BLACK CAN'T LOSE! WE'LL ENTER HIM IN THE FUTURITY IMMEDIATELY! ARE YOU READY FOR SOME QUICK TRAVELLING?

YOU BETCHA!



WHY HERE COMES JIM ROGERS, OWNER OF NEVER LOSE... HELLO, MR. ROGERS!

HELLO, COLONEL! THOUGHT I'D DROP BY AND OFFER MY SYMPATHIES.



WELL, YOU TOOK IT TOUGH BREAK ON THE YOUR HORSE CHIN LOSING THE YOURSELF WHEN THAT WAY HE DID. DARK HORSE BREEZED IN! I UNDERSTAND YOU DROPPED QUITE A BIT OF MONEY!



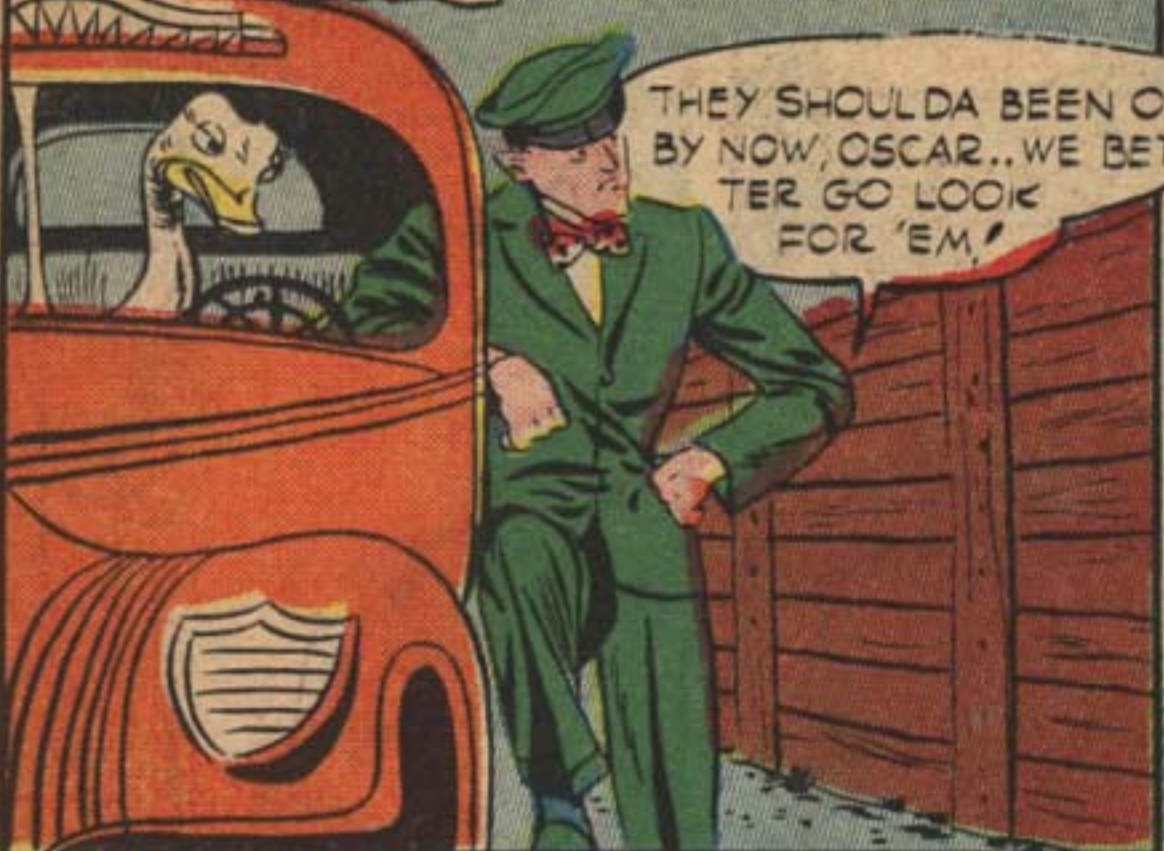
OH, WELL, THAT'S THE WAY THIS GAME IS! UP ONE DAY, DOWN THE NEXT! I'M NOT SQUAWKING! I FEEL THE SAME WAY YOU DO ABOUT RACING. I LOVE HORSES, WIN, LOSE OR DRAW!



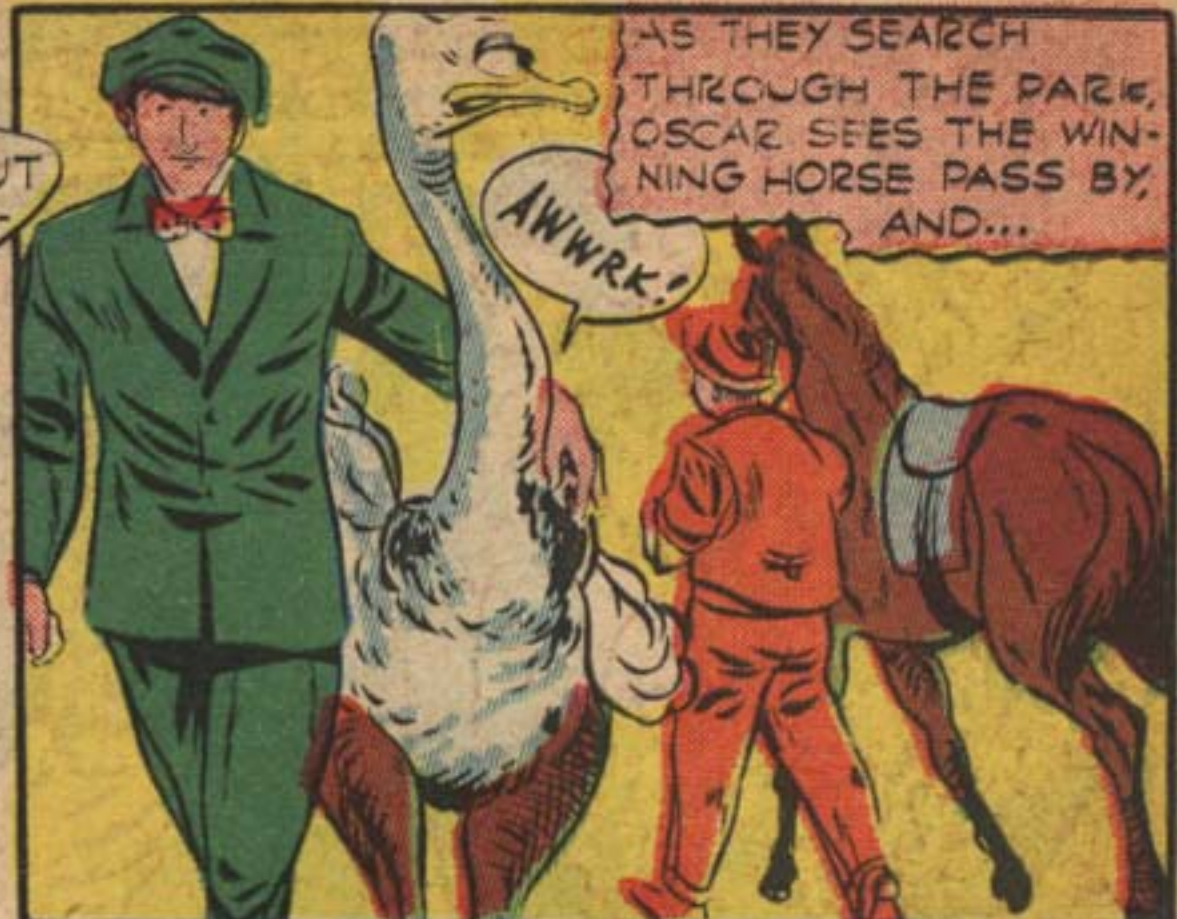
WELL, SO LONG, SO IS MINE! COLONEL. MY NEXT STOP IS THERE, THE FUTURITY! ROGERS! LUCK!



MEANWHILE, WAITING



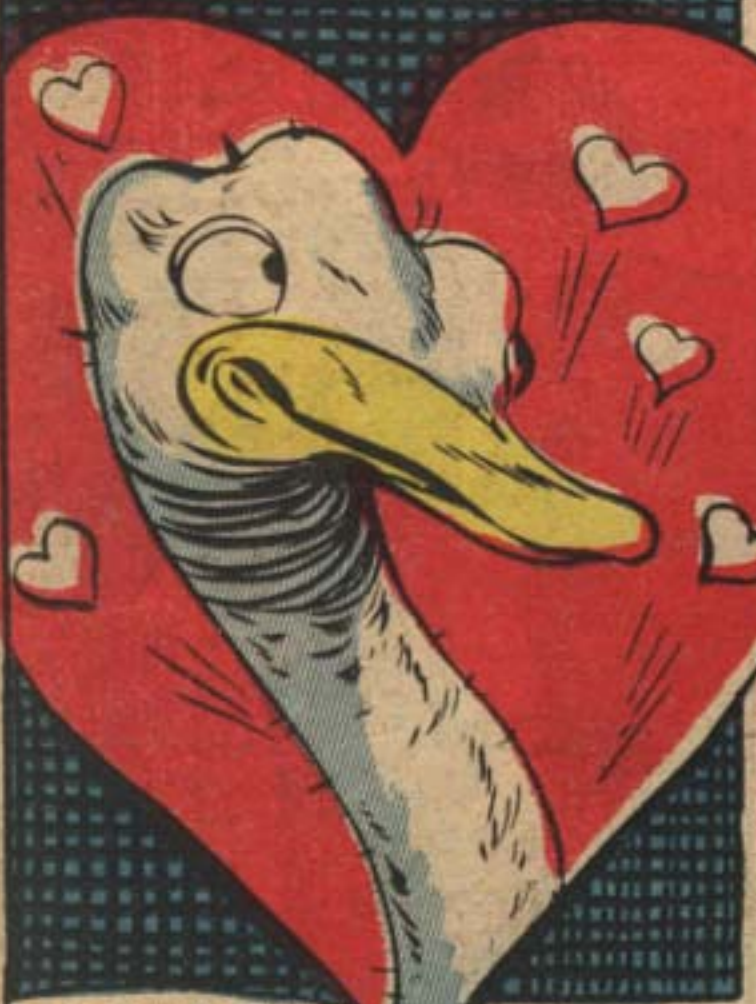
THEY SHOULDA BEEN OUT BY NOW, OSCAR.. WE BETTER GO LOOK FOR 'EM!



AS THEY SEARCH THROUGH THE PARK, OSCAR SEES THE WINNING HORSE PASS BY, AND...

AWWRK!

HIS SENTIMENTAL HEART DOES A COUPLE OF FLIP FLOPS!... OSCAR HAS FALLEN IN LOVE!



AW COME BACK HERE, OSCAR! YA CAN'T GO INTO THAT STABLE!



THE HORSE'S TRAINER COMES RUNNING OUT!

HEY! GET AWAY FROM THAT HORSE!

GET THAT BLANK EY-ETY-BLANK LONG-NECKED CHICKEN OUTTA HERE, BEFORE I PASTE YOU ONE!



TAKE IT EASY, BUDDY! OSCAR AINT NO CHICKEN!.. HE'S A FULL BLOODED AUSTRALIAN OSTRICH!



I DON'T CARE IF HE'S A MONGOLIAN MONGOOSE!.. GET HIM OUTTA HERE TELL YA!



TSK, TSK! EVERY TIME I TURN MY BACK YOU GET ME INTO TROUBLE!

AWWRK!

OSCAR, WHAT HAVE YOU GOT IN YOUR MOUTH NOW?.. HAVEN'T I TOLD YOU NOT TO SWALLOW EVERY THING YOU SEE!



C'MON, COUGH IT UP, NOW!



A TUBE OF PAINT, PHAHH, YOU'LL POISON YOURSELF ONE O' THESE DAYS, SURE!



G'WAN GET IN, WE'RE NOT WAITIN' FER THEM TWO ANYMORE!



A FEW DAYS LATER, IN BLANE'S NEWS-PAPER OFFICE...



WHY..ER..HELLO, JANE, MOE YOU STARTLED ME!



SAY, WHERE'S ROY BEEN KEEPING HIMSELF THESE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS, BLANE?



ER..AH..HE'S VISITING A SICK RELATIVE!

MOE! YOU DROPPED SOMETHING OUT OF YOUR POCKET! WHAT IN THE WORLD IS IT, ANYWAY?





BLANE! THIS ISN'T PAINT!  
IT'S DYE! THE SAME  
KIND OF STUFF CROOKS  
USE TO CHANGE THE  
COLORS OF HORSES!

HERE, LET ME  
LOOK AT IT!

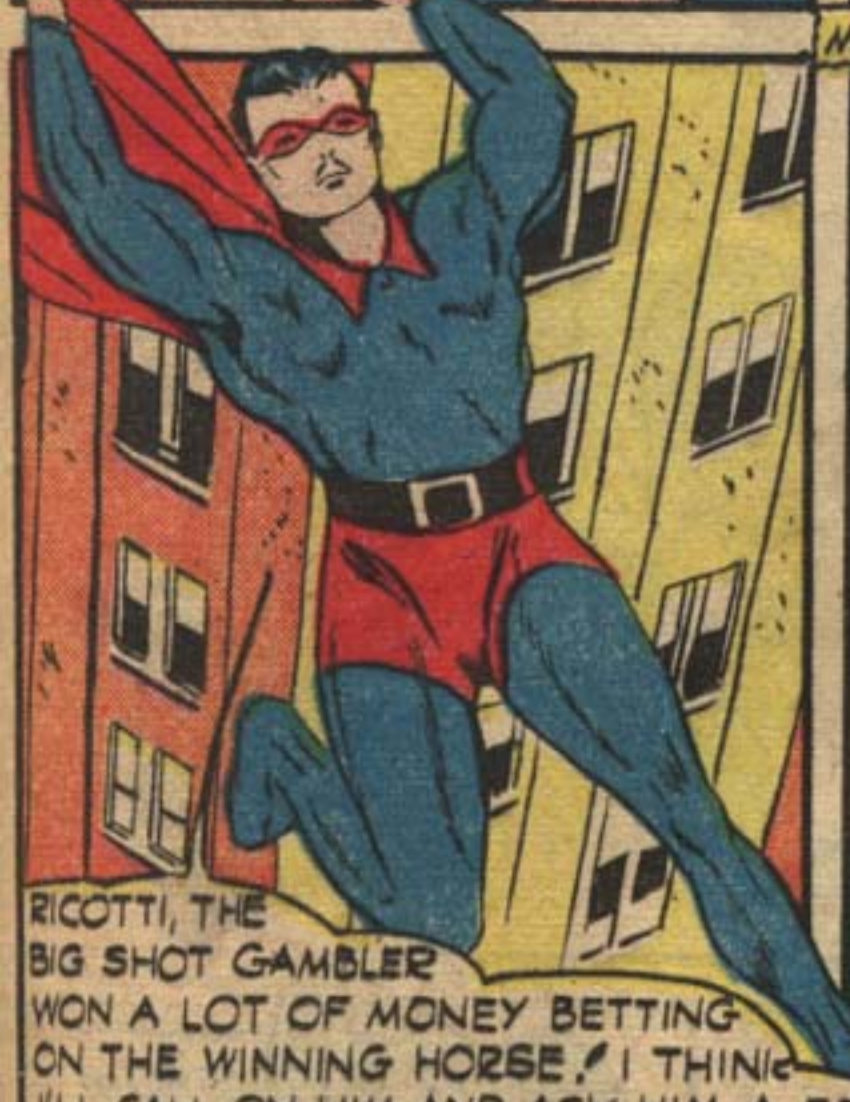


YOU'RE WRONG, JANE! YOU'RE  
GETTING TOO IMAGINATIVE  
LATELY... IT'S NOTHING BUT  
PAINT! WELL I GOTTA  
RUN  
ALONG NOW!

HMM!



OUTSIDE.. JANE WAS RIGHT! IT  
IS DYE! BUT I DON'T  
WANT HER PUSH-  
ING HER NOSE  
INTO TROUBLE!  
THIS IS A  
JOB FOR  
THE  
WIZARD!



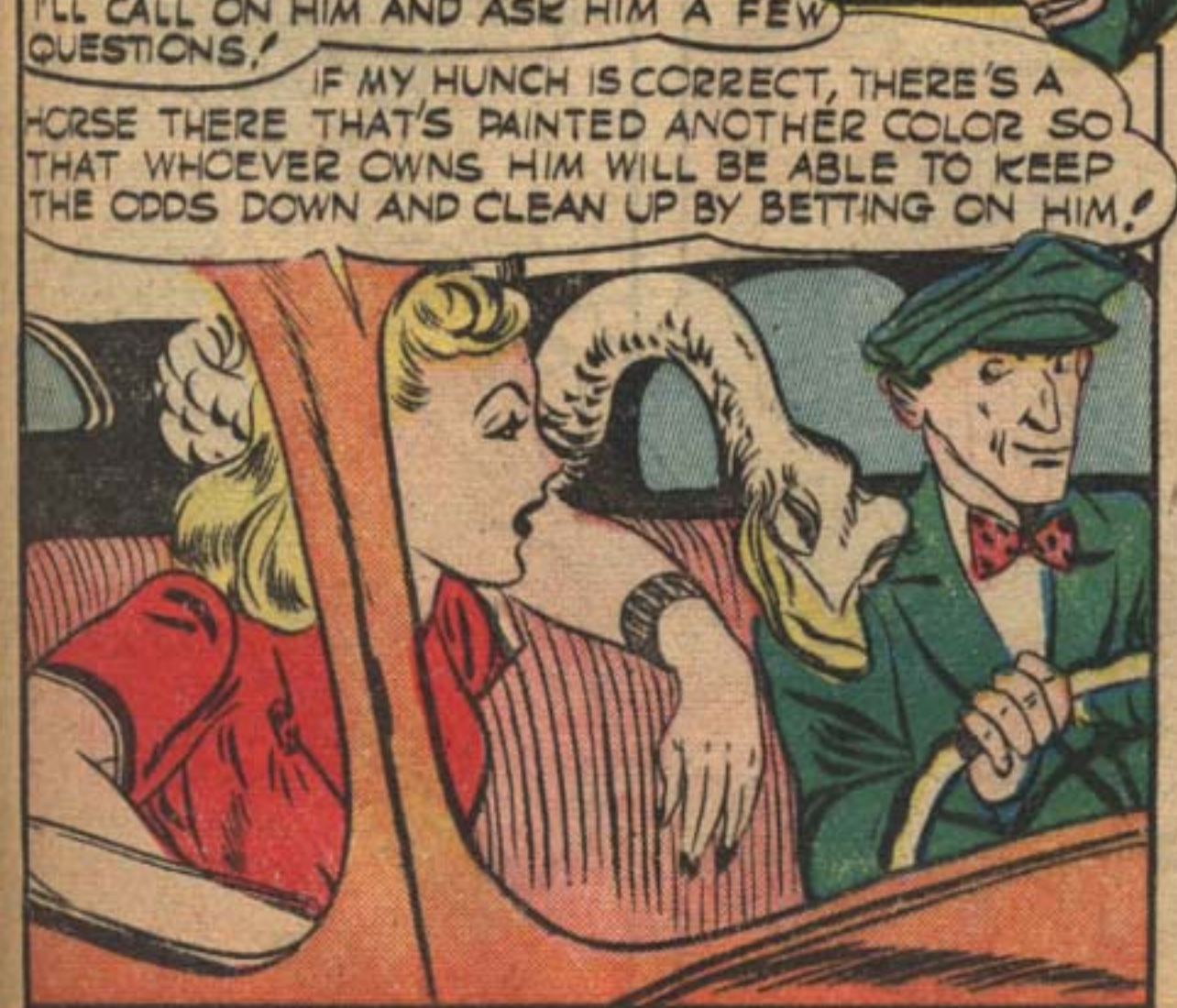
MEANWHILE.. COME ON MOE! I'M  
NOT GOING TO LET BLANE TALK  
ME OUT OF A STORY!.. BOSS OR  
NO BOSS!

SURE MISS  
JANE! WHERE  
TO?



TO THE FUTURITY! THAT'S THE  
ONLY RACE BEING RUN..

OKAY! HOP IN!



RICOTTI, THE  
BIG SHOT GAMBLER  
WON A LOT OF MONEY BETTING  
ON THE WINNING HORSE! I THINK  
I'LL CALL ON HIM AND ASK HIM A FEW  
QUESTIONS!

IF MY HUNCH IS CORRECT, THERE'S A  
HORSE THERE THAT'S PAINTED ANOTHER COLOR SO  
THAT WHOEVER OWNS HIM WILL BE ABLE TO KEEP  
THE ODDS DOWN AND CLEAN UP BY BETTING ON HIM!



WHILE IN THE GAMBLER, RICOTTI'S OFFICE..

WELL, THE RACE SHOULD  
START SOON, BOSS!

YEAH AND THE  
TIP I GOT ON  
THIS NAG BET-  
TER BE GOOD  
AS THE  
LAST  
ONE!



JUST THEN... WHO... YOU? THE WIZARD!

YES, ME, THE WIZARD!



YOU CLEANED UP BY BETTING ON THE WINNING HORSE! WHY WERE YOU WILLING TO RISK SO MUCH MONEY ON AN UNKNOWN?

NONE OF YER BUSINESS! GET OUT!



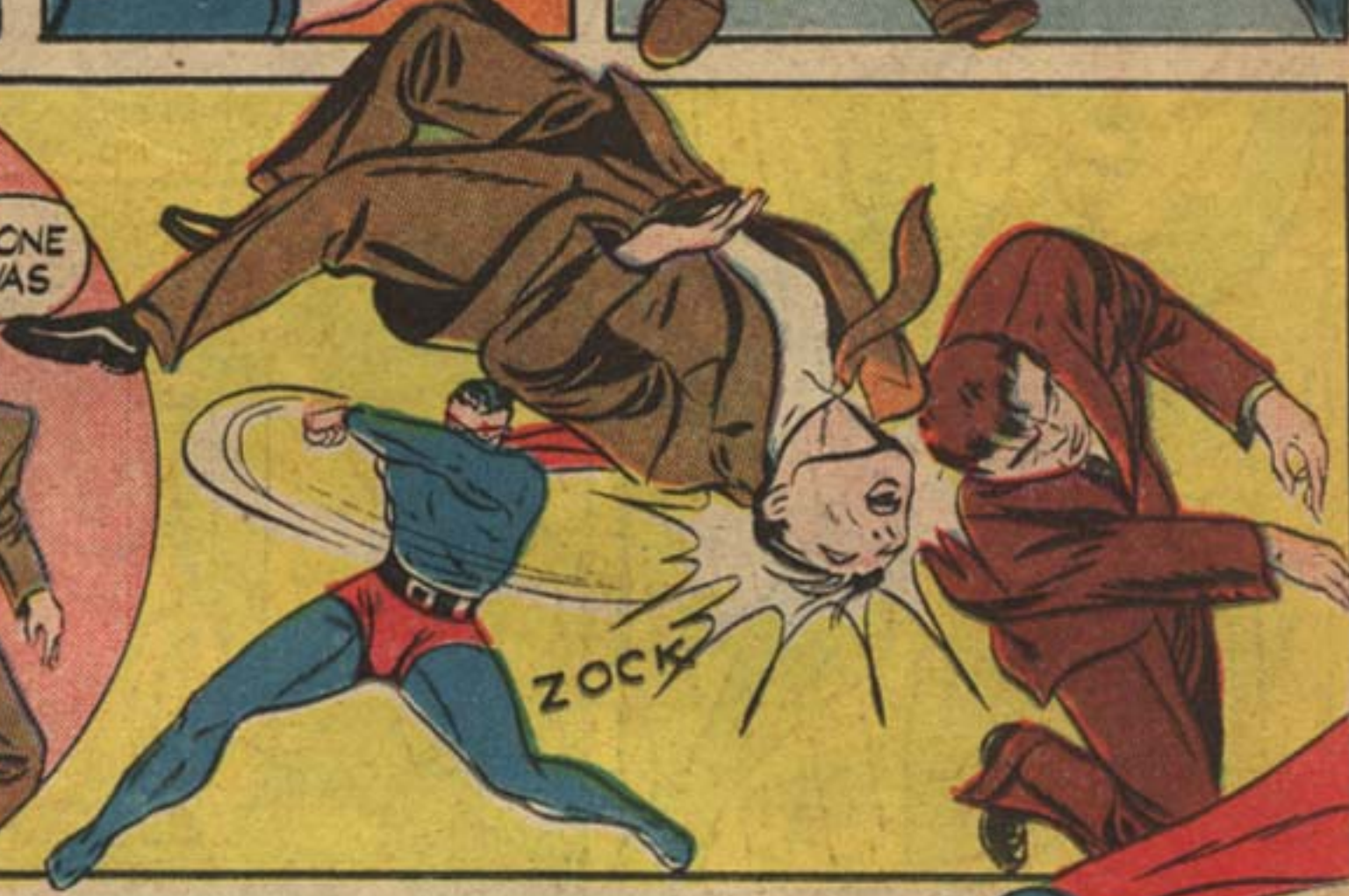
ONE OF RICOTTI'S HENCHMEN SNEAKS UP FROM BEHIND, AND—

BONG



OWOO! MY HAND!... IT'S BROKEN!

SO YOU TRIED TO PULL A FAST ONE WHILE MY BACK WAS TURNED!



THAT GUY IS MURDER ON WHEELS! I'M BREEZIN'!



RICOTTI MAKES A MAD DASH FOR HIS PARKED AUTOMOBILE...



WAIT UP, RICOTTI!... WE'VE STILL GOT SOME UNFINISHED BUSINESS!

NOW, SING, RICOTTI, OR I'LL MAKE SAUCE OUT OF YOUR ADAM'S APPLE!

LEGGO ME! I'LL SPILL ALL I KNOW!

I GOT AN INSIDE TIP FROM SOMEBODY WHO OWES ME A LOT O' GAMBLIN' DEBTS, AN' HE TOOK THIS WAY TO SQUARE IT UP! THAT'S STRAIGHT BUSINESS SO HELP ME!

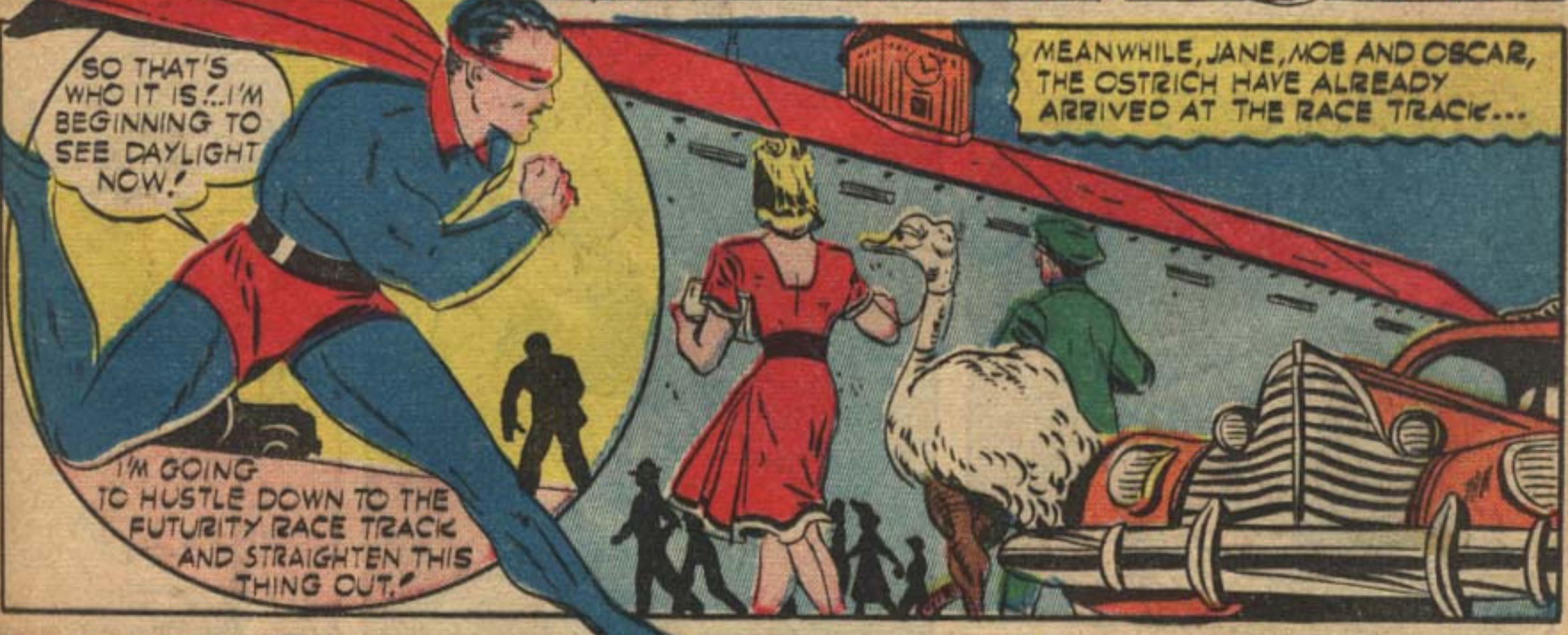
SOUNDS PLAUSIBLE! NOW JUST TELL ME THE NAME OF THE GUY WHO GAVE YOU THIS TIP!



SO THAT'S WHO IT IS! I'M BEGINNING TO SEE DAYLIGHT NOW!

MEANWHILE, JANE, MOE AND OSCAR, THE OSTRICH HAVE ALREADY ARRIVED AT THE RACE TRACK...

I'M GOING TO HUSTLE DOWN TO THE FUTURITY RACE TRACK AND STRAIGHTEN THIS THING OUT!



I'LL BE! WHAT'RE THEY DOIN' HERE ANYWAY? I BETTER NOT LET 'EM SEE ME OR THEY'LL START ASKIN' QUESTIONS!

AH! NO USE FOLLOWIN' 'EM AROUND! PROBABLY NOTHING WRONG! N' BESIDES, THE RACE'LL START ANY MINUTE, NOW!

OH, THERE'S THE CHIEF STEWARD! HE CAN TELL ME WHAT I WANT TO KNOW!



I'M A REPORTER... COULD YOU TELL ME IF "NEVER LOSE" THE DARK HORSE WHO WON THE PURSE AT BELMONT IS RUNNING TODAY?

NO! THERE'S NO "NEVER LOSE" REGISTERED IN THIS RACE!



MOE!.. OSCAR IS RUNNING AWAY!

HEY, OSCAR, DANG YOU! COME BACK!

AWWK



OSCAR'S RUNNING INTO THAT STABLE!

ONE OF THESE DAY, I'M GONNA WRING HIS NECK!



BLOW ME DOWN! HE'S FOUND HIMSELF ANOTHER SWEET-HEART!

AWWK



C'MON AWAY FROM THAT HORSE, YOU.. YOU BIGAMIST!

AAK AAK



MOE, WAIT A MINUTE! MAYBE OSCAR ISN'T SO FOOLISH AFTER ALL! MAYBE THAT HORSE IS "NEVER LOSE" PAINTED ANOTHER COLOR! OSCAR IS THE ONLY ONE WHO WASN'T FOOLED!

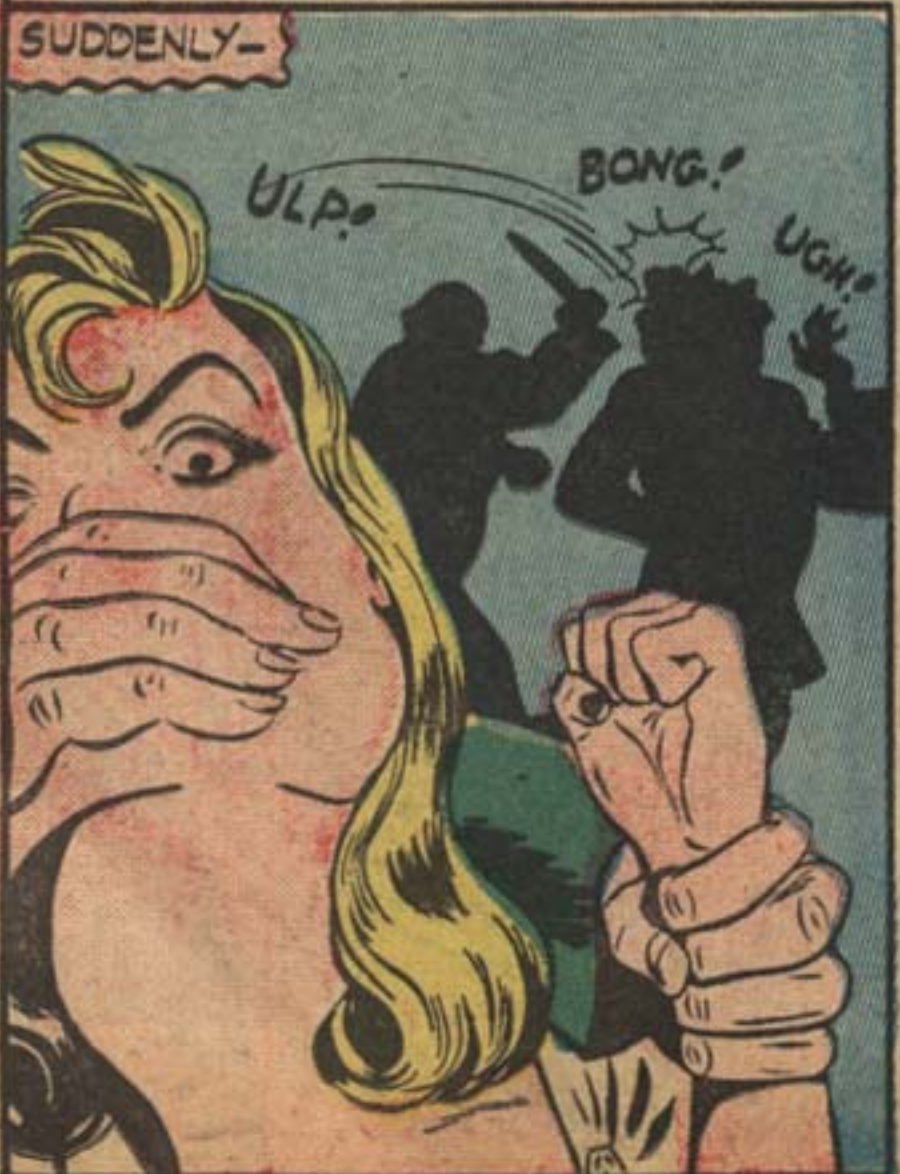


SUDDENLY--

ULP!

BONG!

UGH!



NICE GOIN', ED! LUCKY THING WE GOT THESE SNOOPER'S BEFORE THEY SHOT THEIR MOUTHS OFF!

YEAH! THE DAME'S WISE TO OUR SET-UP ALL RIGHT!





I BETTER CALL UP THE BOSS AND FIND OUT WHAT TO DO WITH 'EM!



AT THE OTHER END OF THE LINE... WHAT? TAKE THEM OUT TO OUR DESERTED STABLE AND GET RID OF THEM! YOU KNOW HOW!



INTO THE CAR! C'MON, HUSTLE!



HERE WE ARE - THE DESERTED STABLE!... THIS IS THE LAST STOP - FOR THE TWO OF YOU!



TOO BAD SUCH A NICE LOOKIN' DAME'S GOTTA FRY! BUT THAT'S THE WAY IT'S GOT TO BE! SAY YER PRAYERS, BABY!

YOU CAN'T DO THIS, YOU IN-HUMAN FIENDS!



WHILE AT THE MOMENT...

I SEEM TO HEAR A CRY FOR HELP... JANE'S CRY!

MY VISION WILL SHOW ME WHAT KIND OF A JAM SHE'S GOTTEN HERSELF IN THIS TIME!



WE KNOCKED OFF ONE JOCKEY WITH A TEAR GAS GUN HIDDEN IN THE WHIP AND WE'RE GONNA DO THE SAME WITH THE JOCKEY OF 'JET BLACK' IF HE GETS TOO DANGEROUS!

SO IT'S A CINCH WE AREN'T GONNA TAKE ANY CHANCES WITH YOU! TA, TA, KID, YOU OUGHTA MAKE A CLASSY LOOKIN' ANGEL!



TEAR GAS IN THE WHIP, AND ROY'S ABOUT TO TAKE THE LEAD! WHAT A SPOT I'M IN!



THE BLANKETY, BLANK BRAT'S PASSIN' ME, ... HERE'S WHERE HE GETS THE WORKS!



JUST THEN, ROY GETS A TELE-PATHIC MESSAGE.

ROY! WATCH OUT! THAT OTHER JOCKEY'S WHIP! IT'S FILLED WITH TEAR GAS!



THE WARNING COMES NOT A SECOND TOO SOON...

NO YOU DON'T, BIG BOY!

CRACK



WHILE IN THE BARN, A ROARING INFERNO SOON RAGES!

CRACKLE

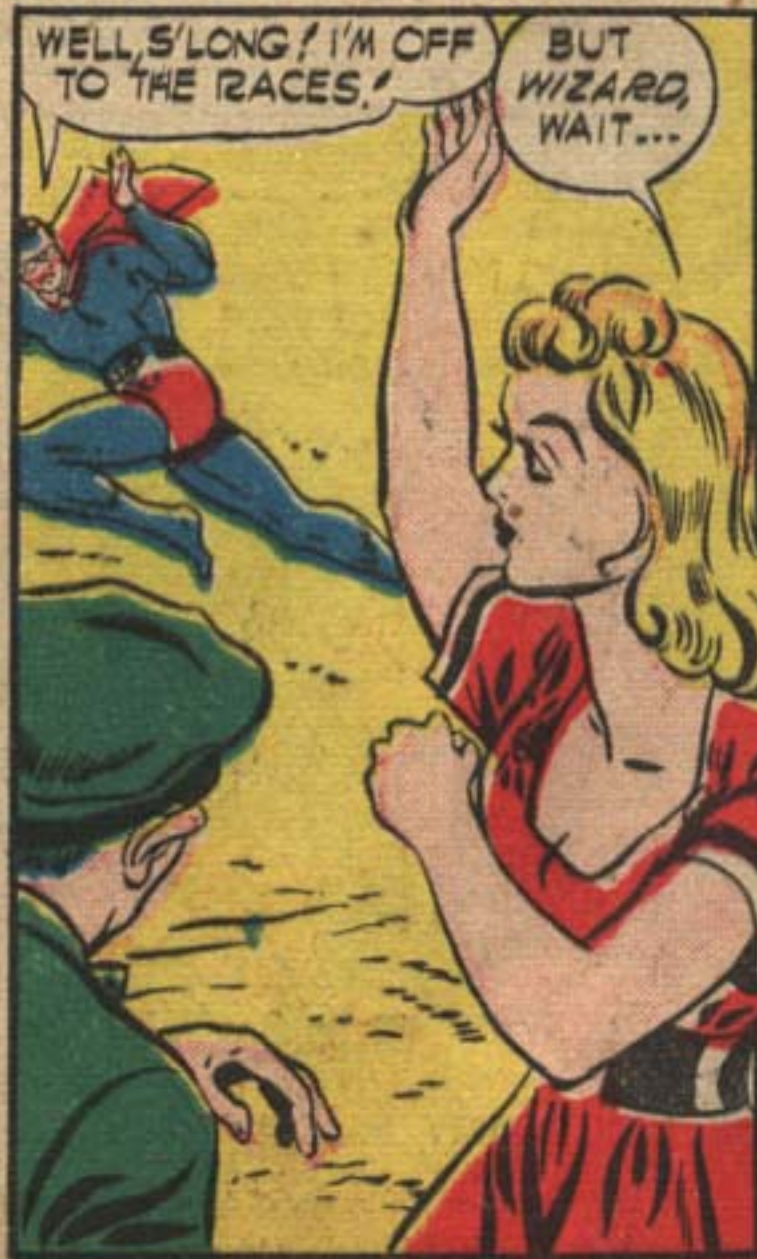


WIZARD! THANK HEAVEN!

CRASH



YOU SEEM TO HAVE AN UNCANNY KNACK OF GETTING INTO TROUBLE AT EVERY TURN!



WELL, S'LONG! I'M OFF TO THE RACES!

BUT WIZARD, WAIT...



MEANWHILE, ROY FLASHES JET BLACK ACROSS THE FINISH LINE - A WINNER!



BUT, INSTEAD OF BRINGING THEIR STEEDS TO A HALT, THE CROWD IS AMAZED TO SEE TWO OF THEM GO RIGHT ON RUNNING.



A DARING LEAP BY THE SUPER-BOY, AND..

HOLD YOUR HORSES, FELLER!



I GOT A COUPLE OF BONES TO PICK WITH YOU!



I'LL START IN ON THE CHIN BONE!



STOP THAT! YOU'LL DIS-QUALIFY SOMEONE ALL RIGHT, BUT NOT ME!  
I'LL DIS-QUALIFY YOU FOR THIS!



HE'S THE ONE!... LOOK AT HIS WHIP AND YOU'LL SEE A TEAR GAS GUN HIDDEN IN IT! THAT'S WHAT FRIGHTENED "JET BLACK" THE FIRST TIME COLONEL, AND KILLED THE JOCKEY!

IT... IT'S UN-BELIEVABLE!



WELL, THIS DODO'S GONNA SPILL PLENTY OF BEANS... OR IT'LL BE UN-BELIEVABLE WHAT I DO TO HIS PROFILE!... C'MON, GIVE YOUR GAME'S UP ANY-HOW!



SURE I'LL TELL YA, WISE GUY! THE HORSE I'M RIDIN' IS REALLY THE CHAMP THREE YEAR OLD, "SUN TAN" PAINTED ANOTHER COLOR! I'M SICK AND TIRED OF THE WHOLE MESS, ANYWAY! I NEVER WANTED NO PART OF IT FROM THE BE-GINNIN'! 'N I KIN TELL YOU PLENTY MORE!



HEY, LOOK! "SUN TANS" GONE!



AT THE REAR OF THE PARK..

HURRY UP! GET "SUN TAN" INTO THAT MOVING VAN AND BEAT IT!

RIGHT, BOSS!



GET HIM OUT OF THE COUNTRY!.. THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO PROVE A THING!

BOSS, BEHIND YOU! WATCH OUT!



ONCE AGAIN- OSCAR.. BUT THIS TIME A HIGHLY ENRAGED OSTRICH- ENRAGED AT SEEING HIS DEARLY BELOVED STEED BEING CARTED AWAY....

AAK... AAK

OOF

OOO! MY EARS!



GOOD OLE OSCAR!.. HE KEPT THEM FROM ESCAPING WITH "SUN TAN"!



BOOM

I'VE GOT A FEW ESCAPE-PROOF TRICKS MYSELF!

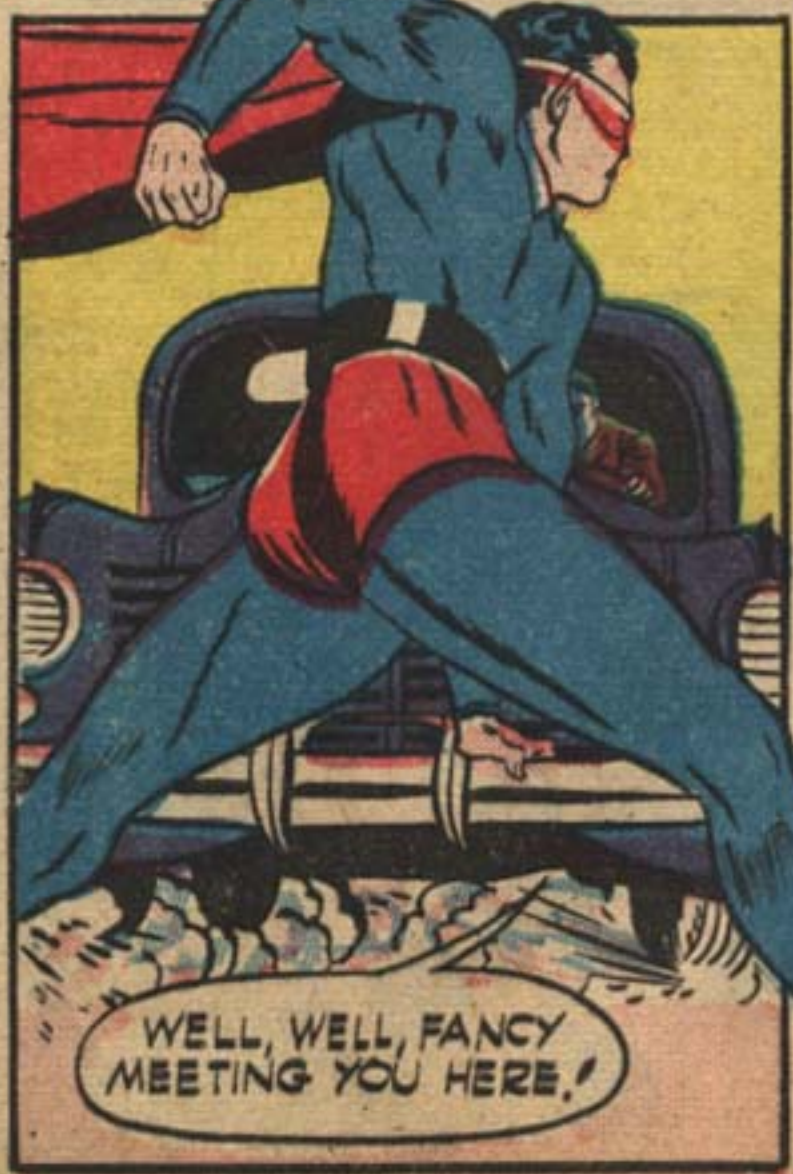


CURSE THEM! THEY'VE MESSSED UP EVERYTHING! WELL, THEY WON'T GET ME!



BUT BEFORE THE CHIEF CAN GET HIS CAR ROLLING...

THE.. THE WIZARD!



WELL, WELL, FANCY MEETING YOU HERE!



I'LL BET YOU WERE PLANNING A NICE EXTENDED TRIP... AND I HAD TO COME ALONG AND SPOIL IT.. TSK, TSK, TSK!



HIYA, WIZARD!.. I SEE YA GOT ANOTHER ONE OF THEM!

NOT 'ANOTHER' ONE, ROY! 'THE' BIG ONE! 'THE' BIG CHEESE!



JUST THEN, COLONEL BRADLEY COMES RUNNING UP WITH THE POLICE.....



NONE OTHER THAN MR. JIM ROGERS, THE MILLIONAIRE SPORTSMAN, HIMSELF!



ROGERS SECRETLY OWNED THE PAINTED "SUN TAN" WHOM HE ENTERED AS A DARK HORSE AND CLEANED UP BY BETTING ON HIM! HE ALSO OWNED ANOTHER WHICH HE REGISTERED IN HIS NAME AND HAD LOSE SO THAT NO ONE WOULD SUSPECT HIM.



BUT HE MADE TWO MISTAKES! ONE WAS IN LETTING RICOTTI, THE GAMBLER IN ON IT- AND THE OTHER LETTING OSCAR FALL IN LOVE WITH "SUN TAN"!



THE MISERABLE BLACK GUARD! IT'S HIS KIND THAT HAS BROUGHT THE NOBLEST OF ALL SPORTS, HORSERACING INTO SUCH DISREPUTE!

BUT HE WON'T ANY LONGER!



SO LONG, COLONEL... YOU'VE GOT A REAL THOROUGHbred IN "JET BLACK" - AND THE RACING GAME HAS ONE IN YOU!

GOODBYE, WIZARD AND ROY! AND A MILLION THANKS!



LATER... AH!.. SO THERE'S MY PRIZE REPORTER!.. WHERE'VE YOU BEEN KEEPING YOURSELF?



PRACTICALLY RISKING MY LIFE TO GET YOUR RAG-A STORY! BUT IT WAS WORTH IT TO SHOW YOU UP AS A FOOL!.. SO THAT HORSE PAINT HUNCH OF MINE WAS SILLY, EH! WELL, LET ME TELL YOU..

THERE'S A REAL TREAT IN STORE FOR YOU IN THE CURRENT ISSUE OF TOP NOTCH! LOOK FOR IT!!



**THE BLACK HOOD, MAN OF MYSTERY,  
BATTLES SCORPIO, THE ASTROLOGER OF  
DEATH, IN THE DEC. ISSUE OF TOP NOTCH  
COMICS.**

HERE'S A YARN THAT'S GUARANTEED TO MAKE YOUR HAIR STAND  
ON END, BUT DON'T TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT, GET YOUR COPY  
NOW, AND SEE FOR YOURSELF THIS BIZARRE MYSTERY "BLOOD  
ON THE STARS".



Paul Cumman

# The WIZARD

with ROY the SUPER-BOY



**I**N PLAIN VIEW OF A MULTITUDE OF HORRIFIED EYES A FIGURE IS SENT HURLING ONTO THE SUBWAY TRACKS DIRECTLY UNDER THE WHEELS OF AN ONCOMING TRAIN!

REGISTERED UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE





OUTSIDE, A GETAWAY CAR AWAITS THE KILLER...

THE JOB'S DONE. GET THAT MOTOR RUNNIN', GOON!



GONE! HE MUST BE IN THAT CAR! I'LL SOON FIND OUT!



THE WIZARD SOON OVERTAKES THE FLEEING CAR...



HEY, GOON! THE WIZARD'S CHASIN' US!

I'LL GIVE 'EM A LITTLE MUSIC OFFA THIS TYPE-WRITER!

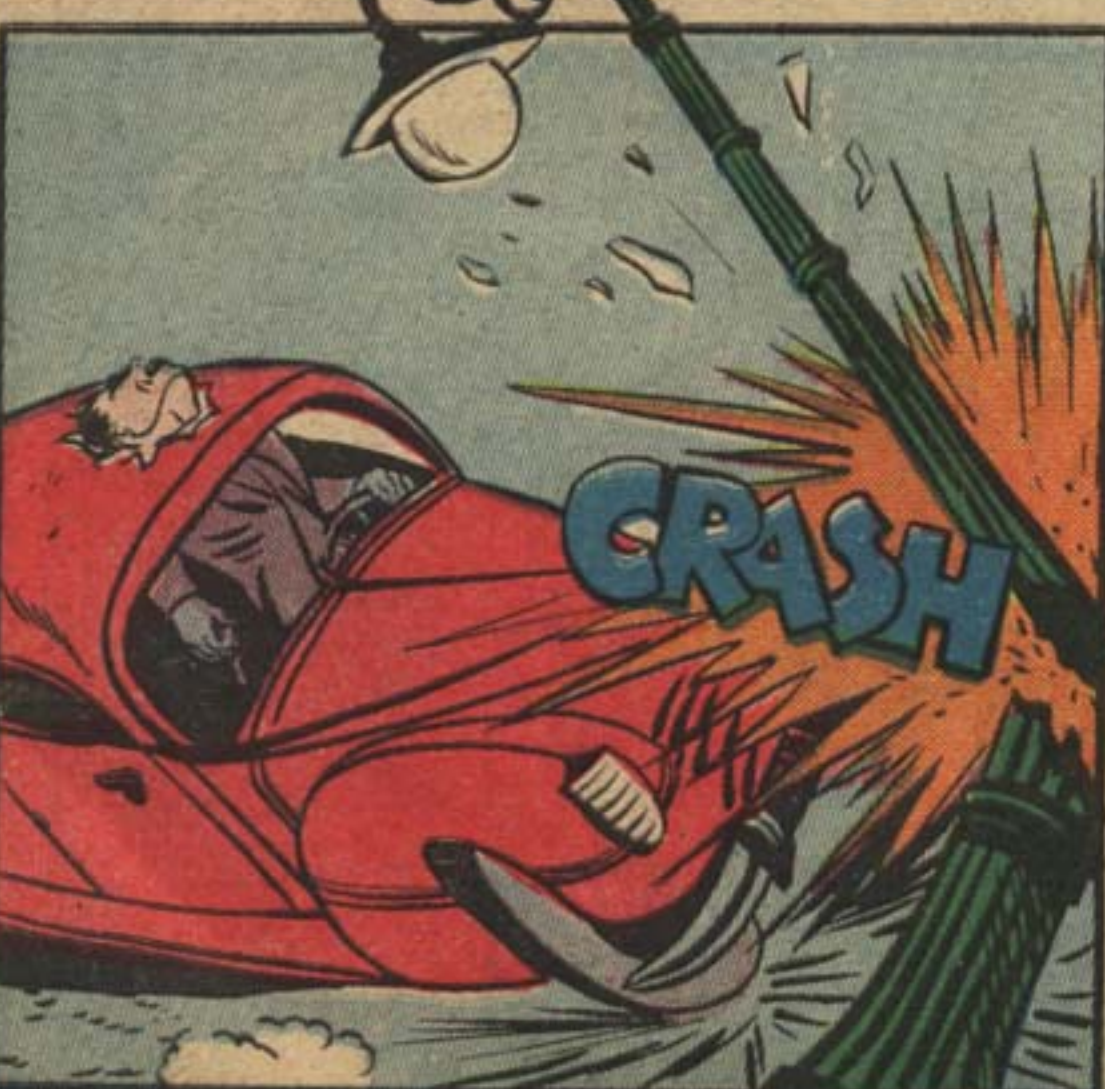


A GREAT LEAP CARRIES THE WIZARD TO THE CAR TOP, AND...



C'MON UP HERE WHERE I CAN HAVE A GOOD LOOK AT YOU!

OWOO!

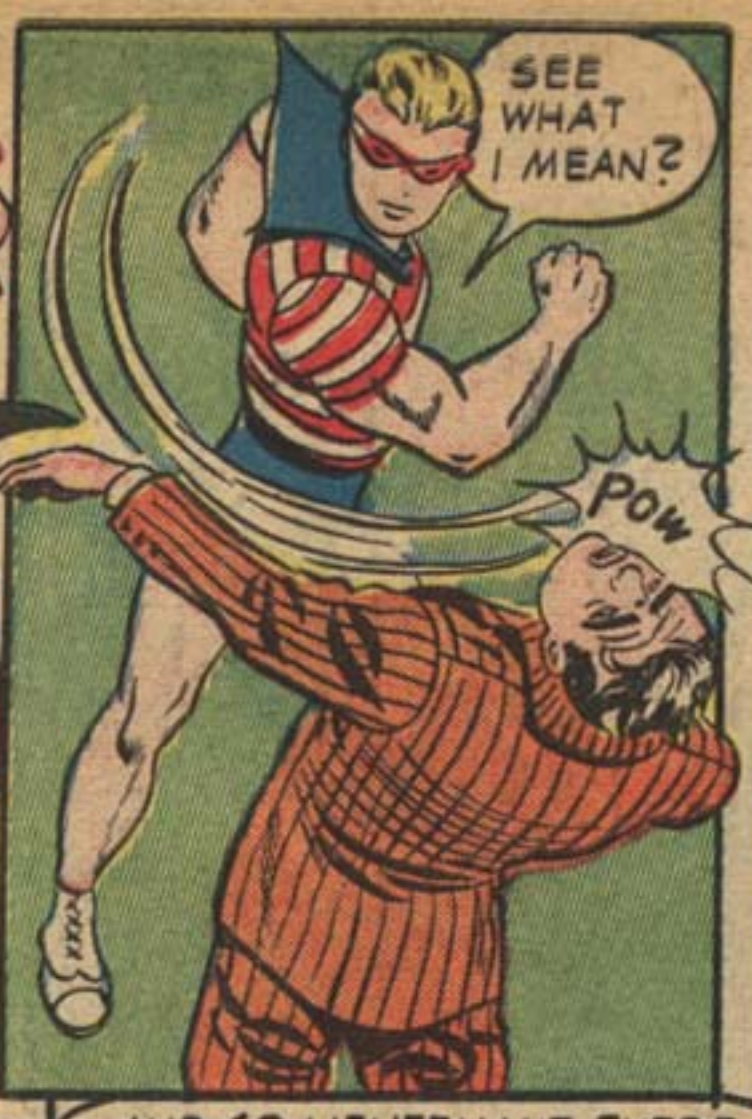


CRASH



GET THAT OTHER RAT, ROY!

RIGHT, WIZARD!





LATER. OWOO, I'M SO MAD BLANE, I COULD SCREAM!

WHAT'S UP, JANEZ?



THOSE TWO KILLERS THE WIZARD CAUGHT?... WELL I WENT DOWN TO THE JAIL TO GET A STORY. I GOT ONE ALL RIGHT- THE WRONG KIND!

WHAT ARE YOU GETTING AT?



JUST THIS?... THEY WERE RE-LEASED ON BAIL... BAIL SUP-PLIED BY OUR CROOKED MAYOR, NO DOUBT!

WHAT?!

OUTSIDE, A QUICK CHANGE, AND--



ER.. WELL, IT'S NO CONCERN OF MINE, I THINK I'LL GRAB SOME FRESH AIR. WANT TO JOIN ME, ROY?



WE'RE GOING TO THE GOVERNOR! HE OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS ROTTEN SET-UP!



SOON, THE DUO ARRIVE AT THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION!



WAIT OUTSIDE, ROY! I WON'T BE LONG!



WIZARD! TO WHAT AM I IN-DEBTED FOR THE PLEASURE OF THIS VISIT?

I'M AFRAID THE THING I HAVE TO SAY WON'T BE VERY PLEASANT, MR. GOVERNOR!



AND SO AFTER I CAUGHT THEM RED-HANDED, MAYOR FEENEY SETS THEM FREE AGAIN!

I WISH YOU HAD COME TO ME BEFORE, WIZARD.



I WOULD HAVE ESTABLISHED AN INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE AND HAD HIS PRIVATE BOOKS SUBPOENAED. FEENEY KEEPS THEM HIDDEN IN HIS OWN OFFICE. BUT NOW, WITH THE ELECTIONS COMING ON TOMORROW..



..NOTHING SHORT OF A FIRESIDE CHAT FROM THE PRESIDENT HIMSELF COULD KEEP FEENEY FROM BEING ELECTED. THEN HE'LL BE ABLE TO KEEP ME AT ARM'S LENGTH WITH MORE LEGAL RED TAPE!

HM.. FIRESIDE CHAT, EH? THAT'S AN IDEA!



OKAY, KID! LET'S GO!

WHERE TO NOW, WIZARD?



FIRST, WE'RE GOING TO MAYOR FEENEY'S OFFICE AND SEE IF WE CAN GET AT HIS PRIVATE RECORDS!

BOYBOY! ACTION, HUH! LET'S GO!



HERE WE ARE, ROY! .... QUIET NOW!



YOU KEEP GUARD AT THE DOOR ... THERE'S GOING TO BE PLENTY OF FIREWORKS WHILE I HUNT FOR THOSE RECORDS AND I DON'T WANT TO BE DISTURBED!

GETCHA, WIZARD!



THE WIZARD WASTES NO TIME AT HIS TASK... THERE'S PROBABLY SOME SECRET COMPARTMENT IN THIS OFFICE... AND I'LL FIND IT IF I HAVE TO TEAR THE JOINT APART



MIKE! THAT RACKET! IT'S COMIN' FROM THE MAYOR'S OFFICE!

BURGLARS! C'MON, PAT!



AH.. HERE IT IS.. JUST AS I SUSPECTED- A SECRET ROOM!

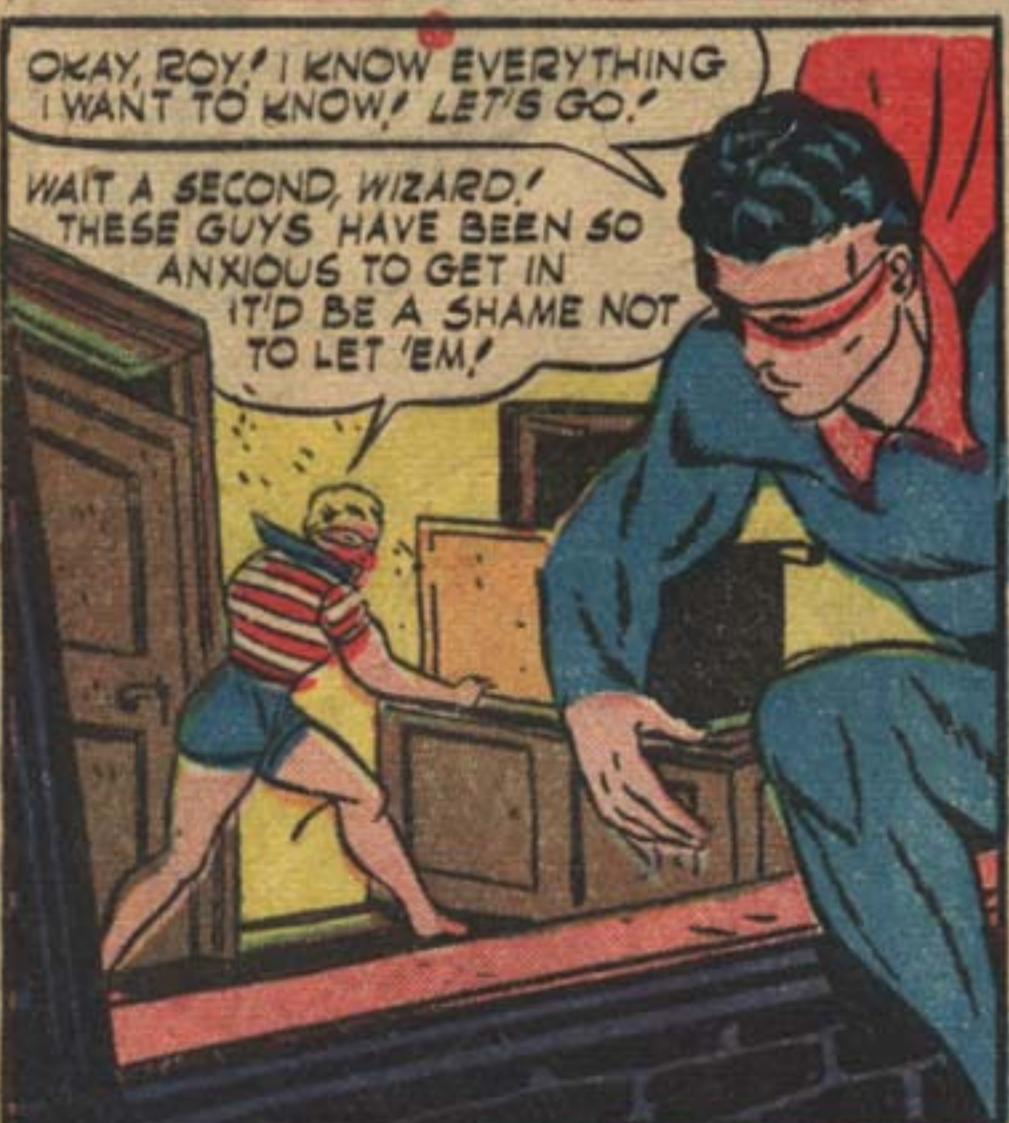
'AN HERE COME THE GUARDS POUNDING AT THE DOOR. THIS'LL KEEP 'EM OUT FOR AWHILE!



THE MAYOR'S PRIVATE RECORDS!.. NOW FOR A LITTLE HOMEWORK!

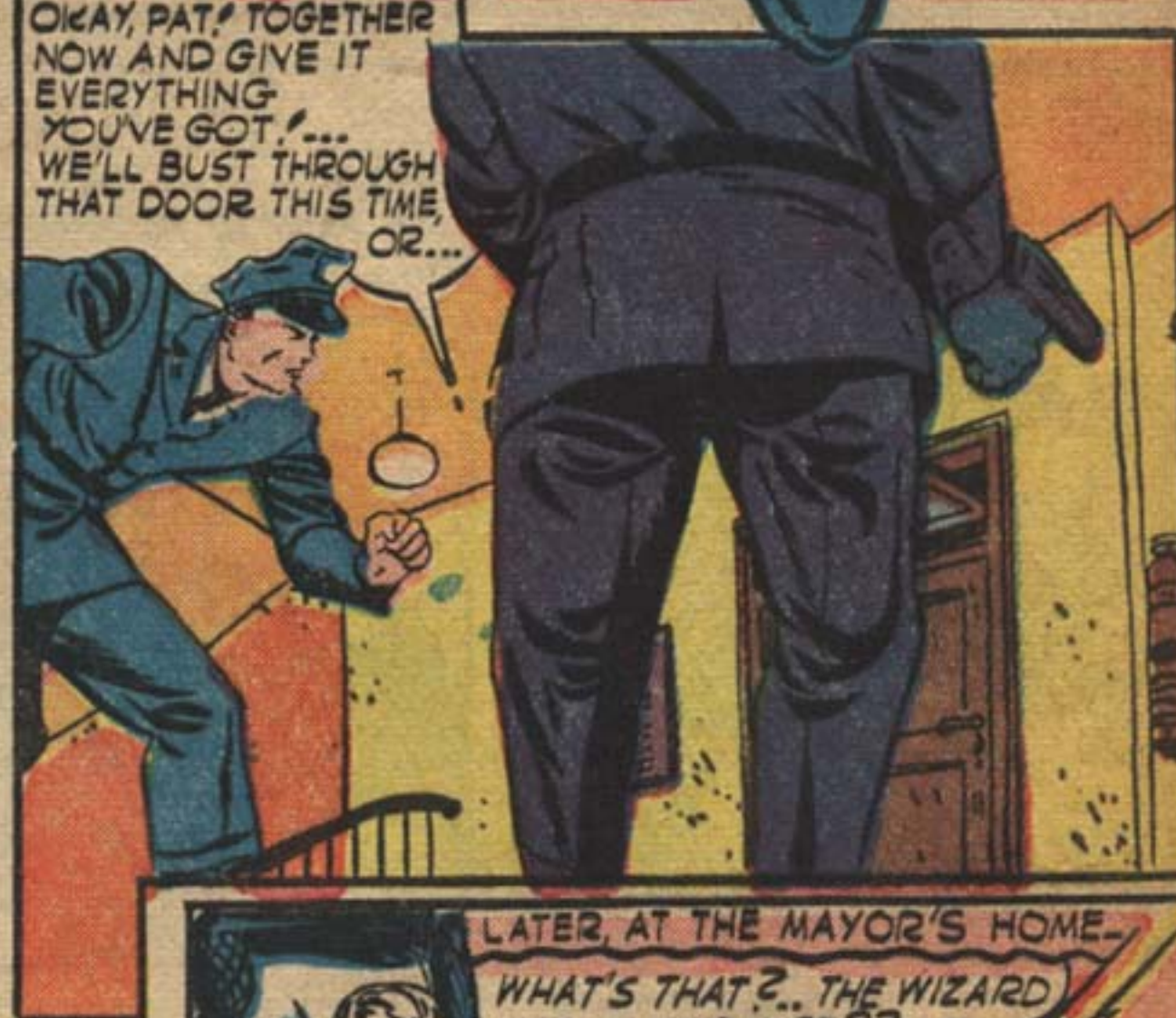


WITH THE GUARDS POUNDING FURIOUSLY AT THE DOOR, THE WIZARD GOES THROUGH THE RECORDS- HIS EXTRAORDINARY MIND ABSORBING INDELIBLY EVERY WORD!



OKAY, ROY! I KNOW EVERYTHING I WANT TO KNOW! LET'S GO!

WAIT A SECOND, WIZARD! THESE GUYS HAVE BEEN SO ANXIOUS TO GET IN IT'D BE A SHAME NOT TO LET 'EM!



OKAY, PAT! TOGETHER NOW AND GIVE IT EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT!... WE'LL BUST THROUGH THAT DOOR THIS TIME, OR...



BUT AS THE GUARDS HURTLE FORWARD, ROY SWINGS THE DOOR OPEN FROM THE INSIDE, AND..

CLOMP!

BOOP!



LATER, AT THE MAYOR'S HOME- WHAT'S THAT?.. THE WIZARD WAS IN MY OFFICE??

YEAH, BUT DON'T WORRY YER HONOR! HE DIDN'T TAKE ANYTHING... WE SCARED HIM OFF!



NEXT STOP - THE CITY'S RADIO STATION!

BOY, I WISH YOU'D STOP 'N TELL ME WHAT'S COOKIN'!



YOU'LL SOON KNOW, I'M GOING TO DO SOME BROADCASTING. YOU GO DOWN TO THE CELLAR IN CASE ANYBODY DECIDES TO TRY AND CUT ME OFF THE WIRES!

OKAY WIZARD!



THE WIZARD HASTENS INTO THE CITY-WIDE BROADCASTING STATION....



HOLD EVERYTHING, ANNOUNCER! I'M TAKING OVER THE MIKE!

WHA... THE WIZARD!



BROTHER, IT'S ALL YOURS - AND WELCOME! LISTEN TO THAT HAND THE AUDIENCE IS GIVING YOU!

YEOW! THE WIZARD! HOORAY! CLAP CLAP WIZARD!

SAY SOMETHING, WIZARD!



I'VE GOT PLENTY TO SAY, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. CALL IT A FIRE-SIDE CHAT IF YOU LIKE, ONLY LISTEN TO ME - AND PLEASE TRY TO BELIEVE!



THERE IS AN ELECTION TOMORROW THAT'S MORE IMPORTANT TO YOUR SECURITY AND HAPPINESS THAN YOU REALIZE! A GRAFTING, DICTATORIAL MAYOR IS RUNNING FOR RE-ELECTION, AND I APPEAL TO YOU AS FREEDOM-LOVING AMERICANS TO DEFEAT HIM!



AT MAYOR FEENEY'S HOME...

HOLY HANNAH! LISTEN TO THE SPEECH THE WIZARD'S GIVIN' OVER THE RADIO!

GOOD LORD! THIS MAY BE RUINOUS!

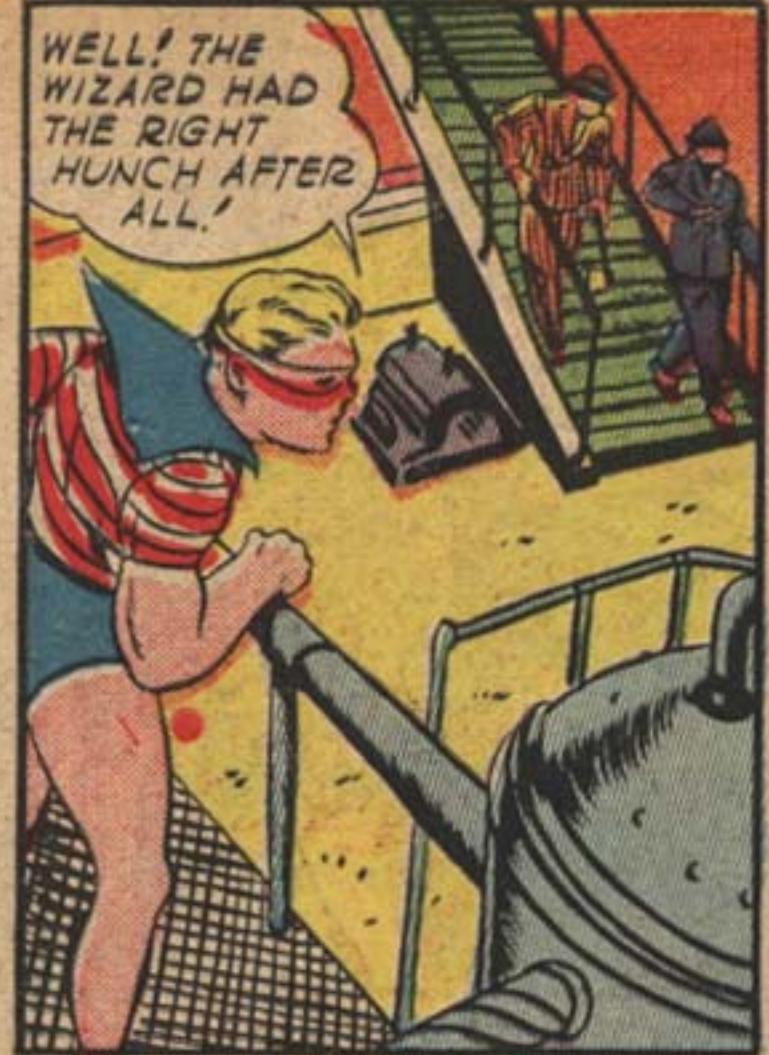


GET THE BOYS DOWN TO THAT STATION. I DON'T CARE HOW YOU DO IT - BUT THE WIZARD MUST BE STOPPED!

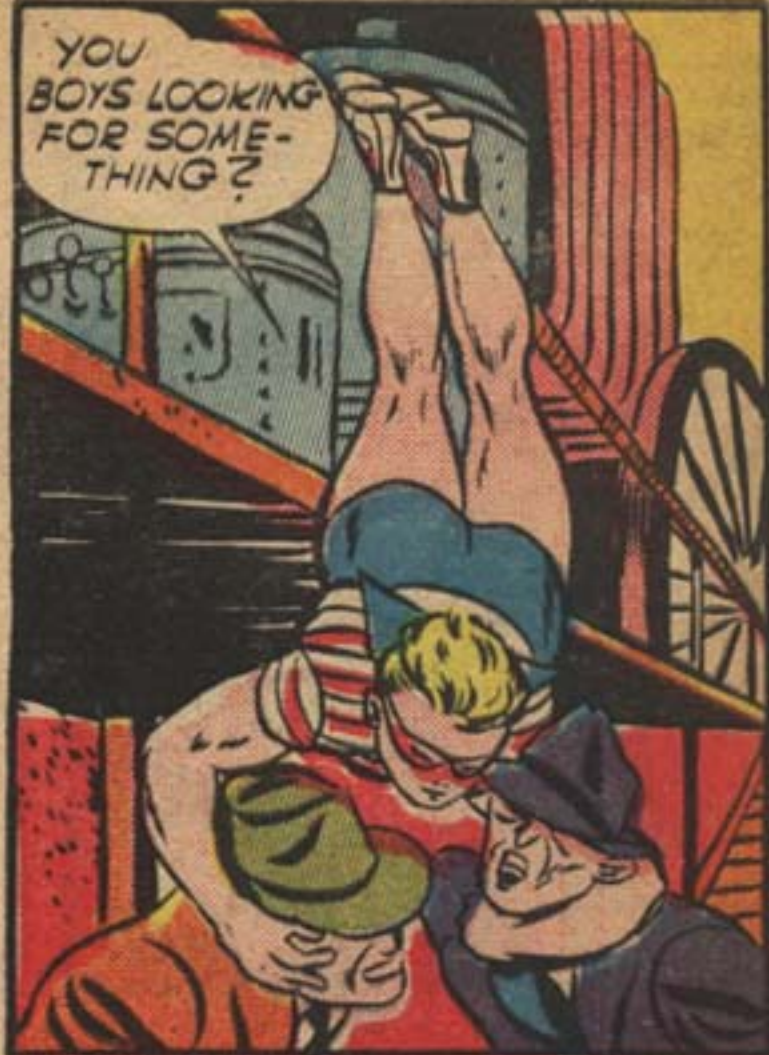




HERE WE ARE! C'MON, WE'RE GOIN' DOWN TO THE CELLAR AND DO A LITTLE AXE-WORK ON THE WIRES!



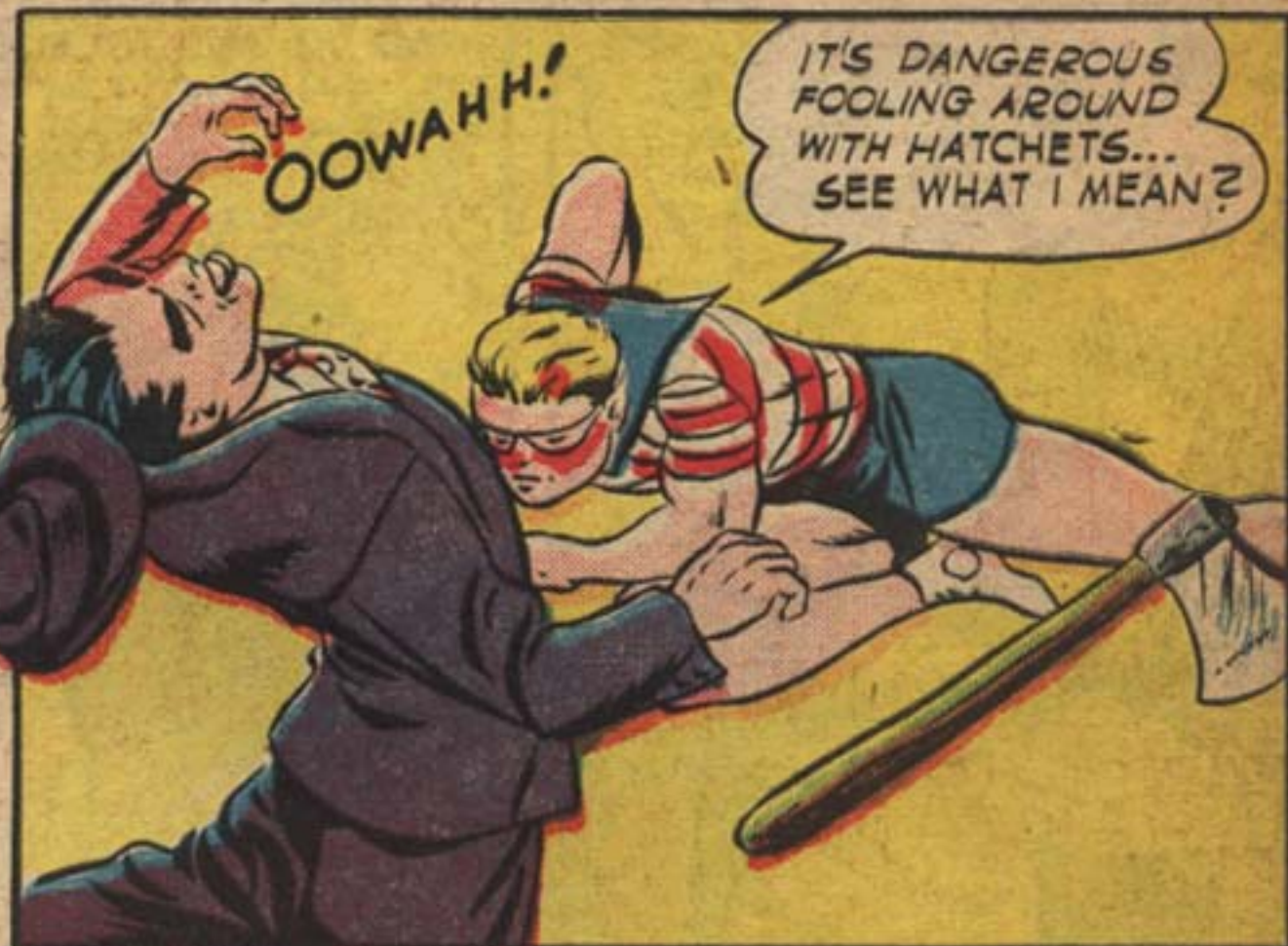
WELL! THE WIZARD HAD THE RIGHT HUNCH AFTER ALL!



YOU BOYS LOOKING FOR SOMETHING?



HOLD THAT POSE! WHAM



OOWAHH!

IT'S DANGEROUS FOOLING AROUND WITH HATCHETS... SEE WHAT I MEAN?



NOW, I'M GOING TO PLAY INDIAN TOO!



WATCH ME GET SOME SCALPS!

HALLP! DONT!



HA, HA, HA, HA! LOOKA THEM RUN.. THEY CAME IN LIKE LIONS, AND ARE GOIN' OUT LIKE PUPPIES WITH THEIR TAILS BETWEEN THEIR LEGS!

YEOW! LEMME OUTTA HERE!





WELL, ALL WE CAN DO NOW IS SIT BACK AND HOPE, LET'S GET BACK TO THE OFFICE!



OH, THERE YOU ARE! DID YOU HEAR THE WIZARD'S FIRE-SIDE CHAT?



ER... NOT EXACTLY! GOOD? SUPERB! I FELT AS THOUGH HE WAS IT WE'RE SPEAKING DIRECTLY TO ME!



AND I BET EVERY LISTENER IN HIS AUDIENCE FELT THE SAME WAY... HE PROBABLY COOKED MAYOR FEENEY'S GOOSE!

HMM... THAT REMAINS TO BE SEEN!



NEXT DAY, THE VOTERS FLOCK TO THE POLLS IN DROVES...



WHILE AN ANXIOUS TRIO HOVERS OVER THE TICKER TAPE AWAITING THE OUTCOME. SUDDENLY—

WOW... IT'S OVER! FEENEY'S LOST!

I KNEW IT! I KNEW IT!

WHEE!



WHILE AT THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION...

GENTLEMEN! THE WIZARD HAS ENABLED US TO INVESTIGATE FEENEY AND HIS CORRUPT GANG OF POLITICIANS. NOW THEY ARE NO LONGER THE LAW!



WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO, BLANE?

WRITE A MESSAGE OF THANKS TO THE PEOPLE FOR THE WIZARD!

**EDITORIAL**  
IT IS WITH HUMBLE GRATITUDE THAT I, THE WIZARD, THANK YOU, MR. AND MRS. VOTER. WHAT YOU HAVE DONE TODAY IS A TRIBUTE TO YOUR INTELLIGENCE. IT HAS ALSO PROVED TO ME THAT MY EFFORTS, CONSTANTLY IN THE INTERESTS OF PUBLIC WELFARE, ARE IN THE BEHALF OF A TYPE OF PEOPLE WORTH SERVING.  
IF THIS IS THE TYPICAL SPIRIT OF AMERICA, AND I AM CONVINCED IT IS, THEN I HAVE NO FEAR FOR OUR FUTURE. FOR JUST SO LONG AS THIS SPIRIT FLAMES BRIGHTLY, SO LONG WILL FREEDOM RING!

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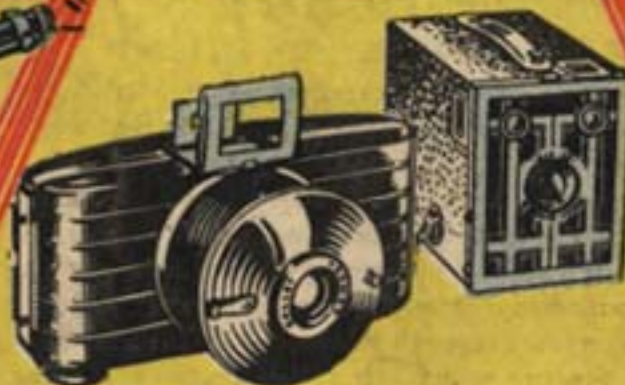
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